BRIAN MICHAEL BENDIS • DAVID FINCH

THE AVENGERS®

DISASSEMBLED

MARVEL

Civil War. Decimation. House of M. All universe-changing events, and all with their origins here: Avengers Disassembled.

An Avenger considered dead shows up on the doorstep of Avengers Mansion, and all hell breaks loose. A massive explosion results in the death of an Avenger, and the team is thrust into disarray and cast into confusion.

It would become the worst day in Avengers history. Before the day was out, more Avengers would join the number of the fallen. But perhaps worst of all for Earth's Mightiest Heroes would be the revelation of those responsible for the carnage. As betrayals run deep and recriminations come to the fore, the repercussions of this signal day in Avengers history continue to reverberate throughout the Marvel Universe.

This is the story of that day - that tragic, awful day for the heroes when things simply fell apart. When the Avengers disassembled.

Collecting *Avengers* #500–503 and *Avengers Finale*.

FINCH
DANNY MIKI '04
fgd

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THE AVENGERS®
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BRIAN MICHAEL BENDIS • DAVID FINCH

THE AVENGERS®

DISASSEMBLED

#500

CHAOS
PART 1
MARVEL®
PSR 500 85

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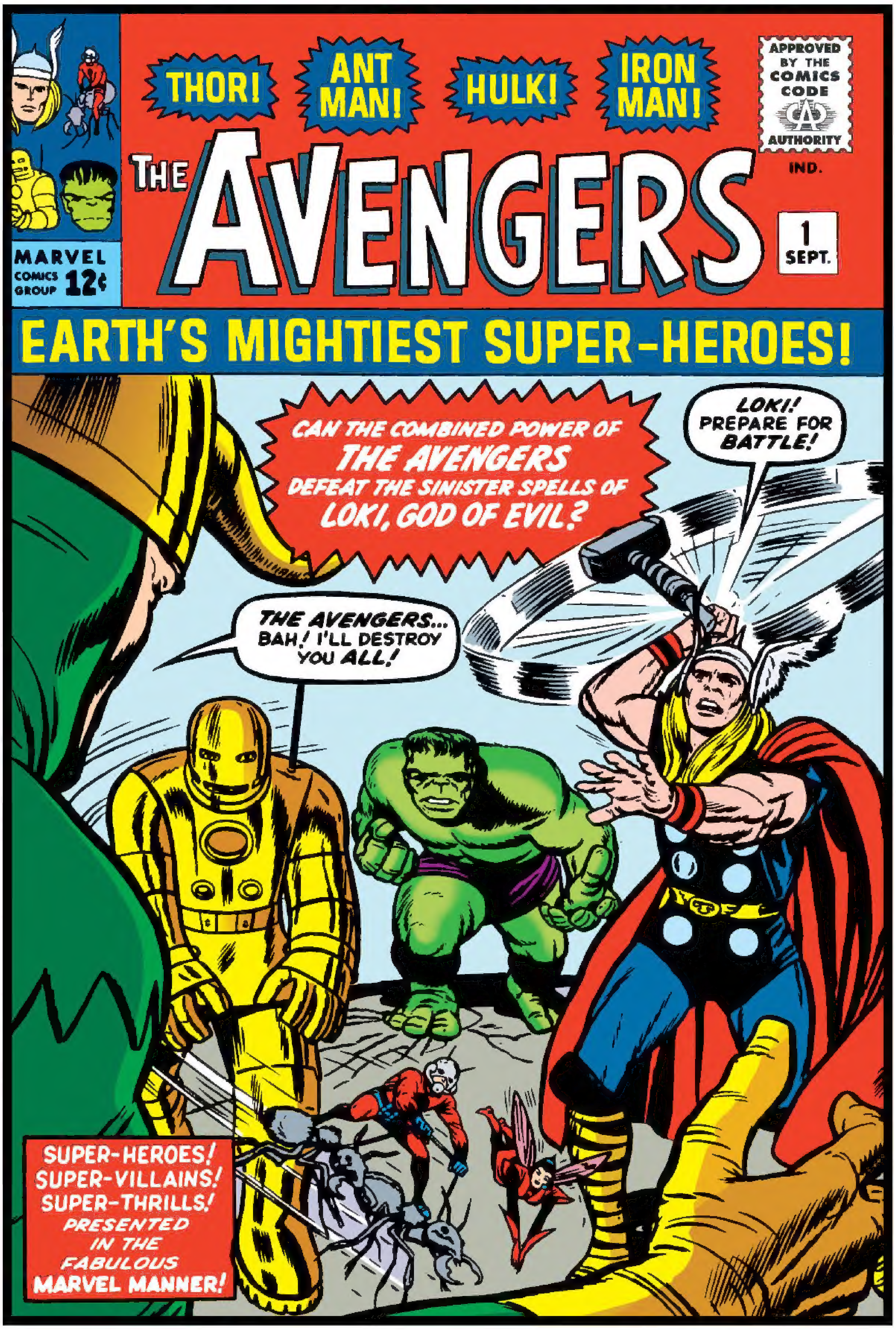
And there came a day, a day unlike any other, when Earth's mightiest heroes found themselves united against a common threat! On that day, the Avengers were born--to fight the foes no single super hero could withstand! Stan Lee presents...

Brian Michael Bendis	Writer	Assistant Editor	Nicole Wiley
David Finch	Penciler	Associate Editor	Andy Schmidt
Danny Miki	Inker	Editor	Tom Brevoort
Frank D'Armata	Colorist	Editor In Chief	Joe Quesada
RS & Comicraft's Albert Deschesne	Letterer	Publisher	Dan Buckley

EARTH'S MIGHTIEST HEROES
THE AVENGERS
DISASSEMBLED

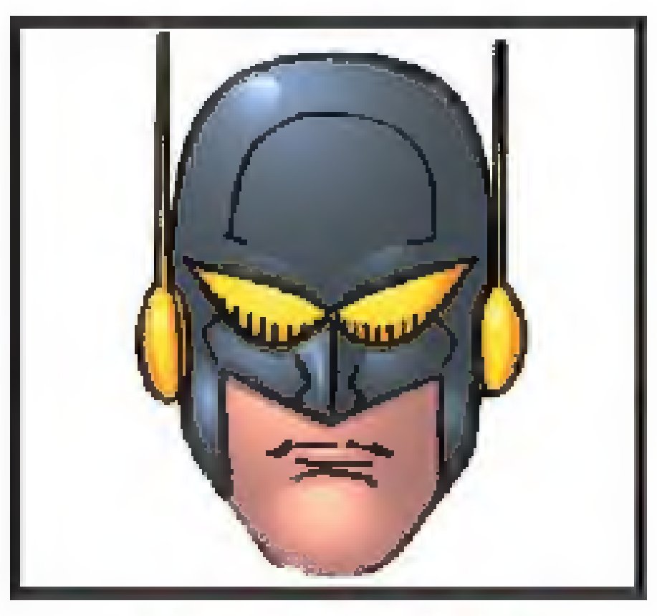
#500

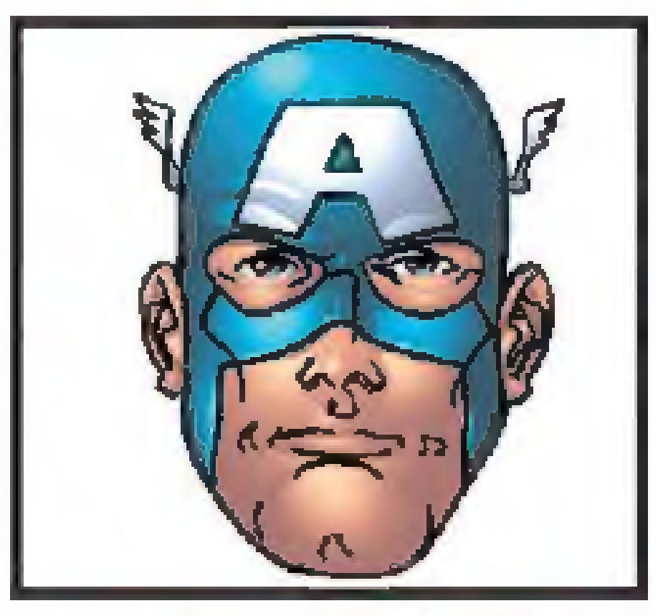
"CHAOS"
PART ONE OF FOUR


THOR!
ANT MAN!
HULK!
IRON MAN!
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE CA AUTHORITY
IND.
THE AVENGERS
1 SEPT.
MARVEL COMICS GROUP 12¢
EARTH'S MIGHTIEST SUPER-HEROES!
CAN THE COMBINED POWER OF THE AVENGERS DEFEAT THE SINISTER SPELLS OF LOKI, GOD OF EVIL?
LOKI! PREPARE FOR BATTLE!
THE AVENGERS... BAH! I'LL DESTROY YOU ALL!
SUPER-HEROES! SUPER-VILLAINS! SUPER-THRILLS! PRESENTED IN THE FABULOUS MARVEL MANNER!

IRON MAN
Tony Stark
The Armored Avenger

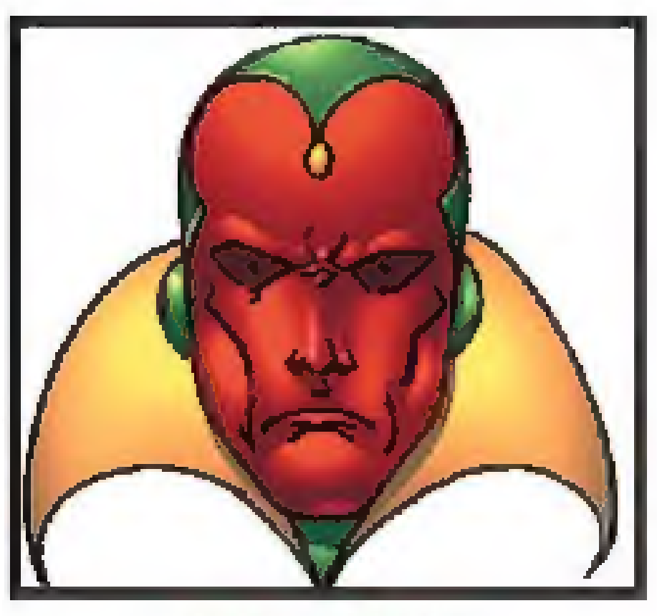
WASP
Janet Van Dyne
Size-Changing Heroine


YELLOWJACKET
Dr. Henry Pym
Size-Shifting Scientist


CAPTAIN AMERICA
Steve Rogers
Living Legend of World War II

SCARLET WITCH
Wanda Maximoff
Mutant Mistress of Probability

HAWKEYE
Clint Barton
Marksman Extraordinary


THE VISION
Density-Altering Android

THE FALCON
Sam Wilson
High-Flying Crusader

SHE-HULK
Jennifer Walters
Gamma-Powered Party Girl

ANT-MAN
Scott Lang
Diminutive Master of the Insects

CAPTAIN BRITAIN
Kelsey Leigh
Protector of Avalon

BLACK PANTHER
T'Challa
Cat-Like Chieftain of Wakanda

Avengers (ISSN #0274-5240) **No. 500, September, 2004.** Published Monthly except semi-monthly in January, February, April, July and October by MARVEL COMICS, a division of MARVEL ENTERTAINMENT GROUP, INC. OFFICE OF PUBLICATION: 10 East 40th Street, New York, NY 10016. **PERIODICALS POSTAGE PAID AT NEW YORK, NY AND AT ADDITIONAL MAILING OFFICES.** © 2004 Marvel Characters, Inc. All rights reserved. All characters featured in this issue and the distinctive names and likenesses thereof, and all related indicia are trademarks of Marvel Characters, Inc. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons, and/or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental. $3.50 per copy in the U.S. and $5.00 in Canada (GST #R127032852) in the direct market and $3.50 per copy in the U.S. and $5.00 in Canada (GST #R127032852) through the newsstand; Canadian Agreement #40668537. **Printed in the USA.** Subscription rate (U.S. dollars) for 12 issues: U.S. $27.00; Canada $37.00; Foreign $39.00. **POSTMASTER: SEND ALL ADDRESS CHANGES TO Avengers, C/O MARVEL SUBSCRIPTION DEPT. P.O. BOX 32 NEWBURGH, NY 12551. TELEPHONE # (800) 217-9158. FAX # (845) 566-7020. subscriptions@marvel.com.** ALLEN LIPSON, Chief Executive Officer and General Counsel; AVI ARAD, Chief Creative Officer; GUI KARYO, President of Publishing and CIO; DAVID BOGART, Managing Editor; STAN LEE, Chairman Emeritus. For information regarding advertising in Marvel Comics or on Marvel.com, please contact Russell Brown, Executive Vice President, Consumer Products, Promotions and Media Sales at rbrown@marvel.com or 212-576-8561.

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VIPER.
REALLY?
REALLY.
MADAME HYDRA?
MADAME HYDRA. VIPER. WHATEVER. YES.
THE ONE WITH THE GREEN HAIR?
YES, MY DEAR ANT-MAN.
THE ONE WITH THE *SEXY* GREEN HAIR AND GREEN LEATHER.
YOU HAVE A THING FOR HER?
I REALLY DO.
YOU'RE A PIG, HAWKEYE.
JANET, AM I WRONG? IS HE BEING A PIG?
YOU DON'T EVEN KNOW WHAT WE'RE TALKING ABOUT, JENNIFER.
NO, YOU ARE NOT WRONG. AND YES, HE IS A PIG.
SEE?

HE ASKED ME WHO MY NUMBER ONE *"CAN'T HAVE"* IS--
WHAT?
MY CAN'T HAVE. WHO'S THE ONE GIRL YOU KNOW YOU CAN'T HAVE BUT--
AND *HE* SAID VIPER.
MADAME HYDRA.
WHO IS THAT? I DON'T KNOW WHO THAT--
UH... *EEEW.*
MUST BE ALL THE GREEN.
WELL, AREN'T YOU JUST--
PUT IT ON HOLO!
SECURITY BREACH. GROUND LEVEL. BACK COURT. LEVEL RED.

NO.
OH, LORD.
IS IT REALLY HIM?
IT CAN'T BE. I SAW IT MYSELF. I SAW HIM DIE.
JACK OF HEARTS DIED. HE *JUST* DIED, RIGHT?
COMPUTER, CONFIRM I.D. IS THAT JACK HART?
I SAW IT MYSELF.
I.D. CONFIRMED, JACK HART. JACK OF HEARTS. AVENGER, DECEASED. FILE INACTIVE AS OF MAY 5TH OF THIS YEAR. CODE RED. ACTIVE AVENGERS ALERT INSTATED.
YEAH YEAH...
...AVENGERS ASSEMBLE.
FULL ALERT.
WHAT SHOULD WE DO?
COMPUTER? RADIATION LEVEL ANALYSIS?
ANT-MAN!
SCOTT! DON'T!

JACK! JACK?!
IT'S ME! SCOTT!
JACK? WHAT HAPPENED?
HOW ARE YOU HERE? HOW ARE YOU ALIVE?
I THOUGHT YOU *DIED* SAVING MY DAUGHTER. I--I SAW IT MYSELF.
I JUST-- I DIDN'T UNDERSTAND WHY YOU WOULD DO THAT, AND TO SEE YOU LIKE THIS--IT'S...
JACK...?
JACK, EVERYTHING'S GOING TO BE--
I'M SORRY.

COUGH *COUGH*
IS--IS EVERYONE OKAY?
I--I CAN'T BREATHE.
CAPTAIN?
I'M--I'M JUST SHAKEN. I'M--
HAWKEYE, TAKE POINT.
POINT OF WHAT?
SCOTT?
WHAT IS THIS?
WHAT'S HAPPENED?

SCOTT?
OH SWEET LORD...
SCOTT...

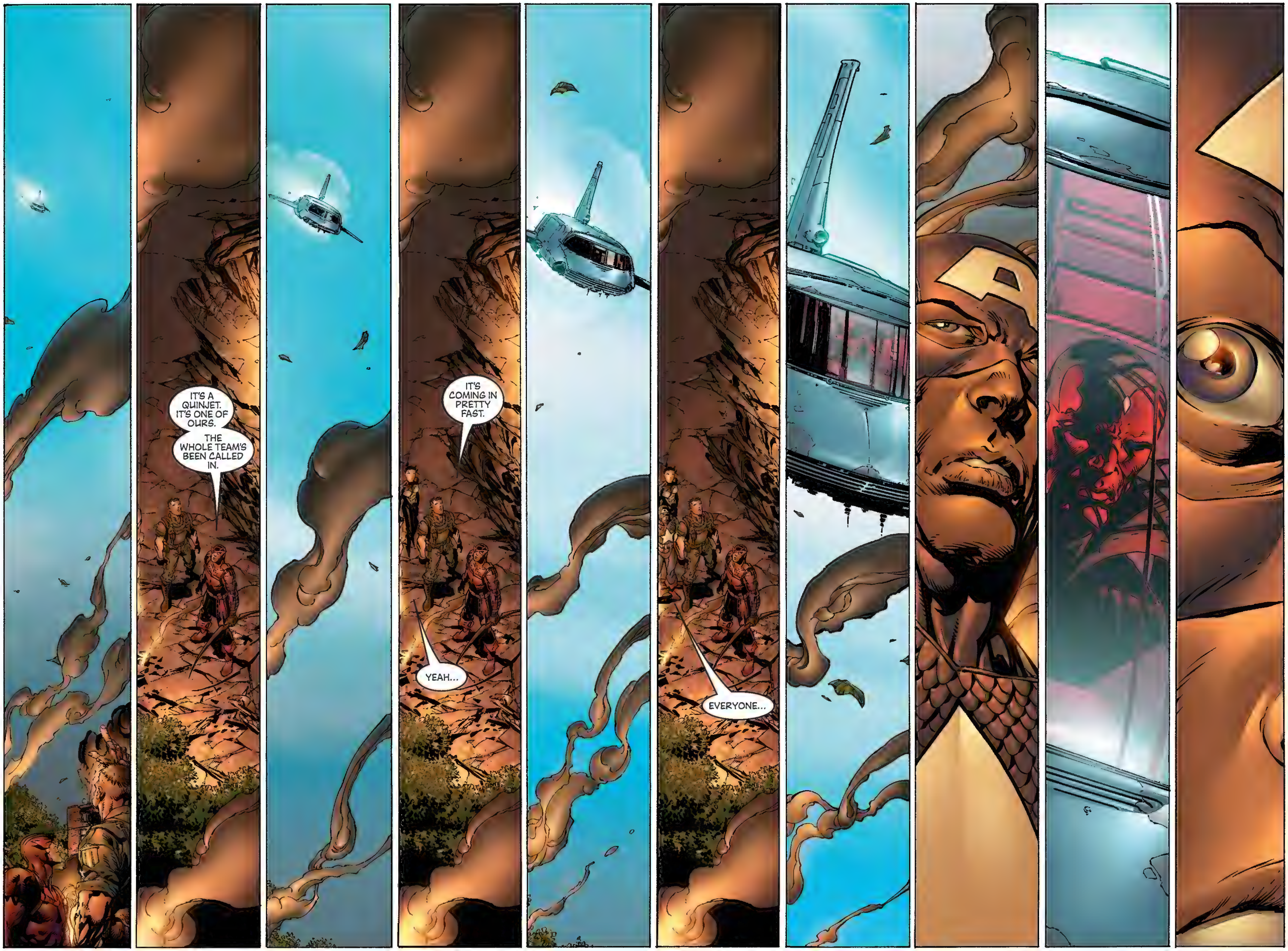
MR. SECRETARY GENERAL, MR. PRESIDENT, DISTINGUISHED DELEGATES AND LADIES AND GENTLEMEN...
I STAND BEFORE YOU AS TONY STARK AND IRON MAN.
AS A CITIZEN OF THE WORLD AND AS AN AVENGER.
AS BOTH THE UNITED STATES' SECRETARY OF DEFENSE AND AN INDUSTRIALIST MEMBER OF THE WORLD ECONOMY.
WE MEET IN A HALL DEVOTED TO PEACE, IN A WORLD OFTEN ROCKED BY UNTHINKABLE VIOLENCE...
EVERY CIVILIZED NATION IS REPRESENTED HERE TODAY... AND WE ARE *RESOLVED* TO KEEP THE MOST BASIC COMMITMENT OF CIVILIZATION.
TO DEFEND OURSELVES AND OUR FUTURE AGAINST TERROR AND LAWLESS VIOLENCE.
AND TODAY THE UNITED NATIONS WILL START THE PROCESS OF REDEFINING THE ROLE OF THE COSTUMED AVENGER AS A-- UGH...
ACHEM...
I--
AUSTRIA
LATVERIA
AUSTRIA
LATVERIA
USTRIA
LATVERIA

I'M SORRY, I JUST --
I LOOK OUT TO THE CROWD HERE...
AND HERE YOU ALL ARE... ALL DRESSED UP AND FANCY, AND THERE'S THIS...
THIS GUY...
RIGHT HERE, FRONT ROW.
THIS GUY.
THIS *"ESTEEMED"* DELEGATE FROM LATVERIA.
GOT HIMSELF A FRONT ROW SEAT AND EVERYTHING.
RI
HOW DO YOU HAVE THE ***NERVE*** TO SIT THERE?
I THOUGHT THESE SEATS WERE FOR HUMAN BEINGS.
I MEAN, HOW MANY TIMES DO WE, AS A WORLD, HAVE TO PUT UP WITH YOUR CRAP?
YOU PIECE OF GARBAGE.
YA RAT FINK.
YOU KNOW WHAT A RAT FINK IS, PALLY? YOU SHOULD... LATVERIA ***INVENTED*** THEM!!
LOOK IT UP IN THE DICTIONARY, YOU'LL SEE YOUR FACE...
OR THE FACE OF YOUR PUPPET MASTER, OR WHATEVER EVIL $$%^ IS PULLING YOUR STRINGS ***THIS*** WEEK.
WE SHOULD TAKE A VOTE -- YEAH!!
LET'S ALL TAKE A VOTE ***RIGHT NOW*** TO JUST WIPE YOUR COUNTRY OFF THE MAP ALREADY AND BUILD AN AMUSEMENT PARK OUT OF THE WHOLE THING AND CALL IT A DAY.
TONY...
DON'T!!
WHAT ARE YOU --
OH, WHAT? ***I'M*** THE JERK NOW?
WE WERE ***ALL*** THINKING IT.
TONY, JUST CALM --
GET ***OFF*** ME, PYM!
I MEAN, ***LOOK*** AT HIM. LATVERIAN TRASH STINKING UP THE WHOLE -- HE ***LOOKS*** LIKE A RAT.
TONY, I THINK IT WOULD BE BEST IF YOU STEP DOWN NOW AND --
CORK IT, T'CHALLA.
SEE, WHAT I WOULD ***LOVE*** TO DO IS...
...PUT HIM OUT OF OUR MISERY RIGHT NOW...

TONY, WHAT IS *WRONG* WITH YOU?
LATVERIA
STARK!
KNOW THIS... IF YOU *DO* THIS...
WHAT IS WRONG WITH YOU?
TONY?!
SHHHUT UP...
DON'T YOU HAVE A WIFE TO BEAT??
GET OUTTA MY NOSE, MAN!!

UM, UH, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, I -- I OFFER YOU, UM, OUR SINCEREST APOLOGIES...
LORD...
TONY? TONY, WHAT *WAS* THAT? WHAT'S GOING ON?
WANDA, I'M -- I *KNOW* THIS FEELING. I KNOW --
I THINK I'M DRUNK.
YOU DRANK? OH, TONY...
I DON'T --
YOU'VE BEEN SOBER FOR SO LONG.
WANDA, I DIDN'T HAVE *ANYTHING* TO DRINK.
beeeeeeeeeeeeeee eeee BEEEEEEEEEE
IT'S THE AVENGERS. CODE WHITE.
OH NO...
THE MANSION.
GUYS, WE HAVE TO --
TONY?

MS. WASP, MA'AM, I THINK YOU SHOULD WAIT FOR NICK FURY TO GET HERE.
LISTEN TO ME, THERE MIGHT BE *LETHAL* RADIATION FROM THE BLAST. WE *ALL* MIGHT BE --
MA'AM, WE CHECKED THAT BEFORE WE LANDED. S.H.I.E.L.D. POLICY IS TO *ALWAYS* CHECK ATMOSPHERIC --
BUT JACK HART WAS HALF ALIEN, YOU DON'T KNOW *WHAT* HE BROUGHT --
MA'AM, I THINK YOU MIGHT BE IN SHOCK. WHY DON'T YOU --
THIS IS A S.H.I.E.L.D. MATTER, WE'LL TAKE CARE OF THE MANSION GROUNDS.
YOU AND YOUR MEN TALK TO THE CIVVIES, SEE IF THEY SAW ANYTHING --
ARE YOU HAVING TROUBLE BREATHING?
I APPRECIATE YOUR CONCERN, BUT I WOULD RATHER YOU TENDED TO --
LISTEN, PAPPY, THERE'S A LOT TO DO HERE, JUST TELL ME WHERE IT HURTS SO WE CAN --
YOU TALK TO THIS MAN...
...AS IF YOU WERE SPEAKING TO ME.
AS FAR AS *I* AM CONCERNED, THIS MAN IS AN AVENGER.
Y-YES CAPTAIN, SIR.
JARVIS, WHAT HAPPENED?
IT WOULD APPEAR, SIR, THAT WE HAVE EXPERIENCED A TRAGEDY WHICH WORDS CANNOT PROPERLY DESCRIBE.
MASTER SCOTT LANG HAS DIED, SIR, IN A MOST TERRIBLE WAY.
SOMEONE -- SOMEONE MUST CALL HIS YOUNG DAUGHTER.
UH -- WHO IS THAT?


IT'S A QUINJET. IT'S ONE OF OURS.
THE WHOLE TEAM'S BEEN CALLED IN.
IT'S COMING IN PRETTY FAST.
YEAH...
EVERYONE...

CAP...?

AVENGERS, I BID YOU TIDINGS, IN THIS, OUR DARKEST HOUR.
I AM SORRY TO INFORM YOU THAT I AM NO LONGER IN CONTROL OF THE ORGANISMS THAT MAKE UP MY BODY STRUCTURE...
...AND THAT YOU ARE NO LONGER IN CONTROL OF ANYTHING THAT WE, AS A GROUP, HELD DEAR.
OR WHAT WE, AS INDIVIDUALS, HELD AS IMPORTANT...
OUR TIME IS OVER.
I CANNOT EXPLAIN TO YOU IN TERMS THAT ANY OF YOU WOULD UNDERSTAND WHY AND HOW THIS HAS HAPPENED TO US...
...FOR I AM ONLY NOW BEGINNING TO COMPREHEND WHERE IT IS THAT WE, AS A GROUP, HAVE FAILED...
AND WHY WE ARE ABOUT TO BE PUNISHED.
VISION, WHAT'S HAPPENED? JUST TELL US WHAT IS --
DO KNOW THAT, THOUGH THIS WILL SEEM A BETRAYAL FROM ME...
...IT IS NOT I WHO BRINGS THIS =HURK= THIS PLAGUE UPON YOU.
DO KNOW THAT I FEEL AN OVERWHELMING SHAME FOR... WHAT NOW MUST =HURK!=

POP
THUMP
AVENGERS--
POP
POP
POP
POP
FALL BACK!

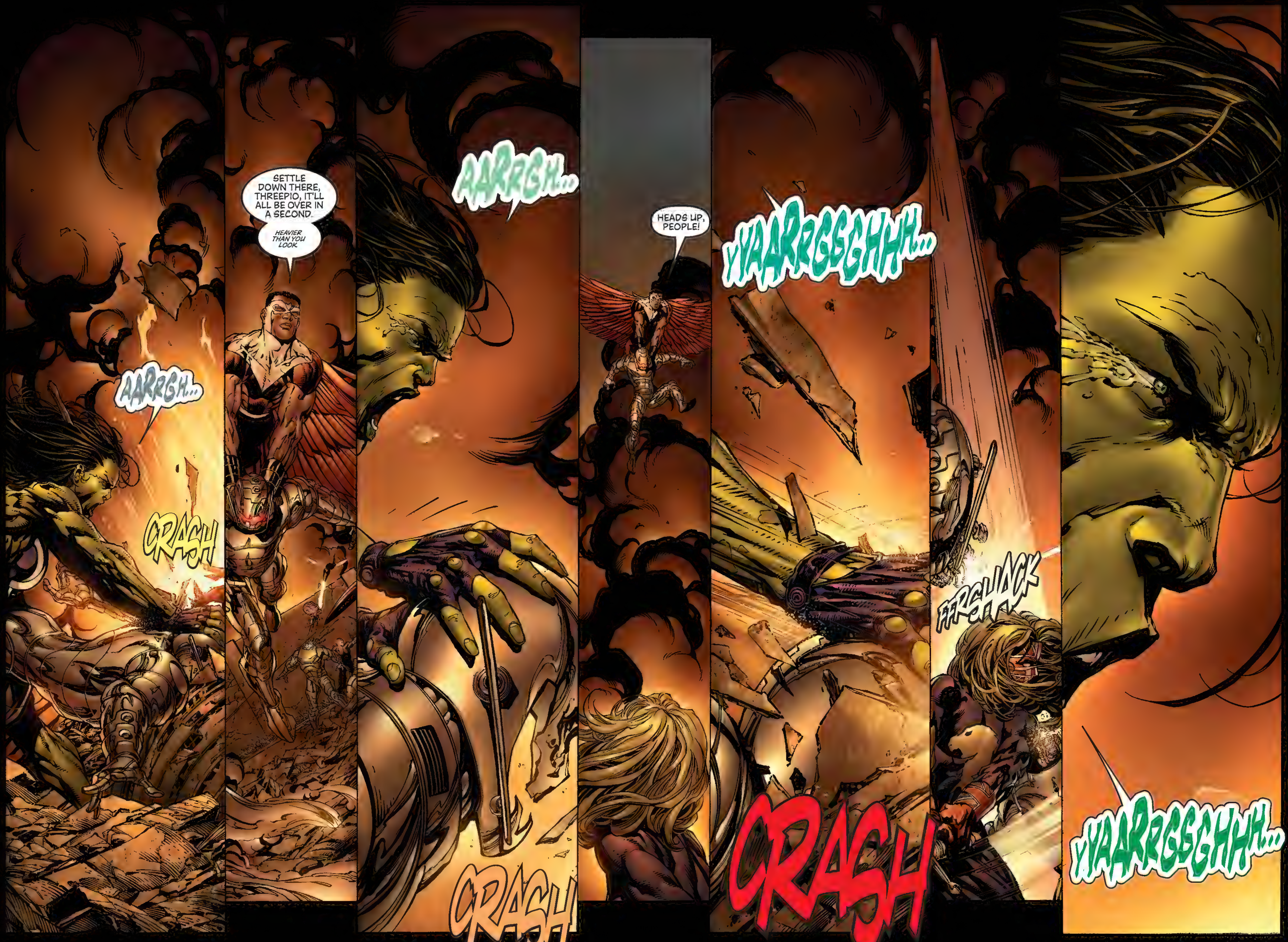
I SAID FALL BACK!!
FALL BACK WHERE?
AAGGH!!
THIS IS A NIGHTMARE!!
IS THIS A BAD TIME TO HAND IN MY RESIGNATION?
GGAARRGH!! WHAT IS THIS??
WHY IS THIS HAPPENING??
FIVE ULTRON ROBOTS?
Y'KNOW, CALL ME A TRADITIONALIST, BUT I ALWAYS THOUGHT ONE WAS PLENTY.

FUNK
FUNK
FUNK
FUNK
FUNK
BOOM
BOOM
BOOM

I HATE *THIS* ALTOGETHER.
WELL, I'M GOING TO END IT IN ABOUT FIFTY SECONDS!
WHY IS THIS *HAPPENING?* I FEEL LIKE I'VE GONE INSANE.
ARE THESE THINGS ALL CONNECTED?
I DON'T EVEN KNOW WHAT'S HAPPENING.
I MEAN, WHAT DOES THIS HAVE TO DO WITH JACK OF HEARTS RETURNING FROM THE DEAD ONLY TO BLOW UP HALF THE MANSION AND KILL ANT-MAN?
AAARRGGHH!!
S.H.I.E.L.D. COMMAND, THIS IS AGENT COLEMAN AT AVENGERS HQ, OVER?
RECEIVING.
WE ARE UNDER ATTACK BY MULTIPLE --
YOU'RE BREAKING UP.
JUST GET SOMEONE DOWN HERE!!!

YWHAOOHH! THANKS, CAPTAIN! THAT *WAS* CLOSE!
WELL, IF YOU HAVE A SHOT, TAKE IT!
FAKUNK

NNYYAARRGGGHHH!!
HIT 'EM IN THE NECK, AVENGERS!
NO HEAD, NO ULTRON.
AARRGGGHHH!!
NO HEAD, NO ULTRON. GOT IT.
ARE THEY SENDING BACKUP?
THE HELL SHOULD *I* KNOW?
I'M NOT TRAINED FOR ROBOTIC DEFENSE SYSTEMS.
SUCKS TO BE YOU.
CRASH


AARRGH...
CRASH
SETTLE DOWN THERE, THREEPIO, IT'LL ALL BE OVER IN A SECOND.
HEAVIER THAN YOU LOOK
AARRGH...
CRASH
HEADS UP, PEOPLE!
YAARRGSGHHH...
CRASH
FFRSHACK
YAARRGSGHHH...

AAAARRGGH!
WAS THAT THE REAL ULTRON?
I CAN'T TELL. THE REAL ONE *DID* LIKE TO TALK AN *AWFUL* LOT.
SO, WAIT -- SO WE'RE TO BELIEVE THAT THE VISION HAD AN IMPLANTED WHAT? LIKE, AN IMPLANTED PROGRAM FROM ULTRON TO UNLEASH THIS ON US?
DAMN IT!
I DON'T UNDERSTAND--
THE VISION IS A SYNTHETIC ORGANISM. YEARS AGO, ULTRON CREATED THE VISION TO DESTROY US.
HE'S AN AVENGER. DON'T BE TOO --
BUT HE BROKE HIS COMMAND CODES AND WE TOOK HIM IN. HE'S--
I'M SO *SICK* OF THIS!!!
WHY? WHY IS THIS HAPPENING?!! WHY IS SCOTT LANG DEAD?
WHERE *ARE* YOU IN THERE??
WAKE UP AND TELL US *WHAT THIS IS??*

I JUST WATCHED AN AVENGER DIE!!
FOR NO GOOD REASON!!
AND THIS PIECE OF WHATEVER IT IS KNOWS WHY!! HE COMES DOWN HERE AND ATTACKS US??
NO!! THIS IS OUR HOME!!
WHY??
WHY WHY WHY WHYAAARRGGH?!
PUT HIM DOWN AND CALM YOURSELF, JENNIFER, I MEAN IT.
IT'S NOT EVEN HUMAN!! IT'S JUST A THING!!
A THING THAT JUST TRIED TO KILL US!!!
PUT HIM DOWN!
JENNIFER, CALM DOWN...

NNYYAARRGGHHH!

OH JENNIFER, *PLEASE,* PLEASE DON'T DO THIS.
YOU'RE *NOT* YOUR COUSIN, YOU'RE IN CONTROL. THIS ISN'T YOU!! YOU CAN CONTROL IT!!
DON'T, PLEASE -- NOT TODAY --
NNYYAAA SSHUT UP!!
AAAIIEEE!!
CALM *DOWN,* LADY!
OR AVENGER OR NOT, I WILL PUT YOU DOWN!!
NNYYAARRGGH!!
FOOM
AARRGGH
FOOM
S.H.I.E.L.D. COMMAND!!
IF YOU CAN HEAR ME -- SEND EVERYTHING YOU GOT. THIS SITUATION IS NOW LEVEL 9.
WE NEED A HULKBUSTER CREW, A.S.A.P.
OH, NO...

JENNIFER, I DON'T WANT TO DO THIS.
JENNIFER, *DON'T!!*
HUUAAARRGGH!!

IS IT OVER?
NO.
THERE'S MORE?
MUCH MORE.
THEY ARE MANY AND THEY HAVE MUCH TO ANSWER FOR.
WE SHOULD JUST KILL THEM AND BE DONE WITH IT.
AND WHAT WOULD *THAT* PROVE? IT HAS NO MEANING THAT WAY.
YOU'RE SO STUPID.
BUT THE ANSWER IS NO.
IT ISN'T OVER.

BENDIS • FINCH • MIKI
THE
AVENG
ASS
CHAOS
PART 2
MARVEL
PSR 501

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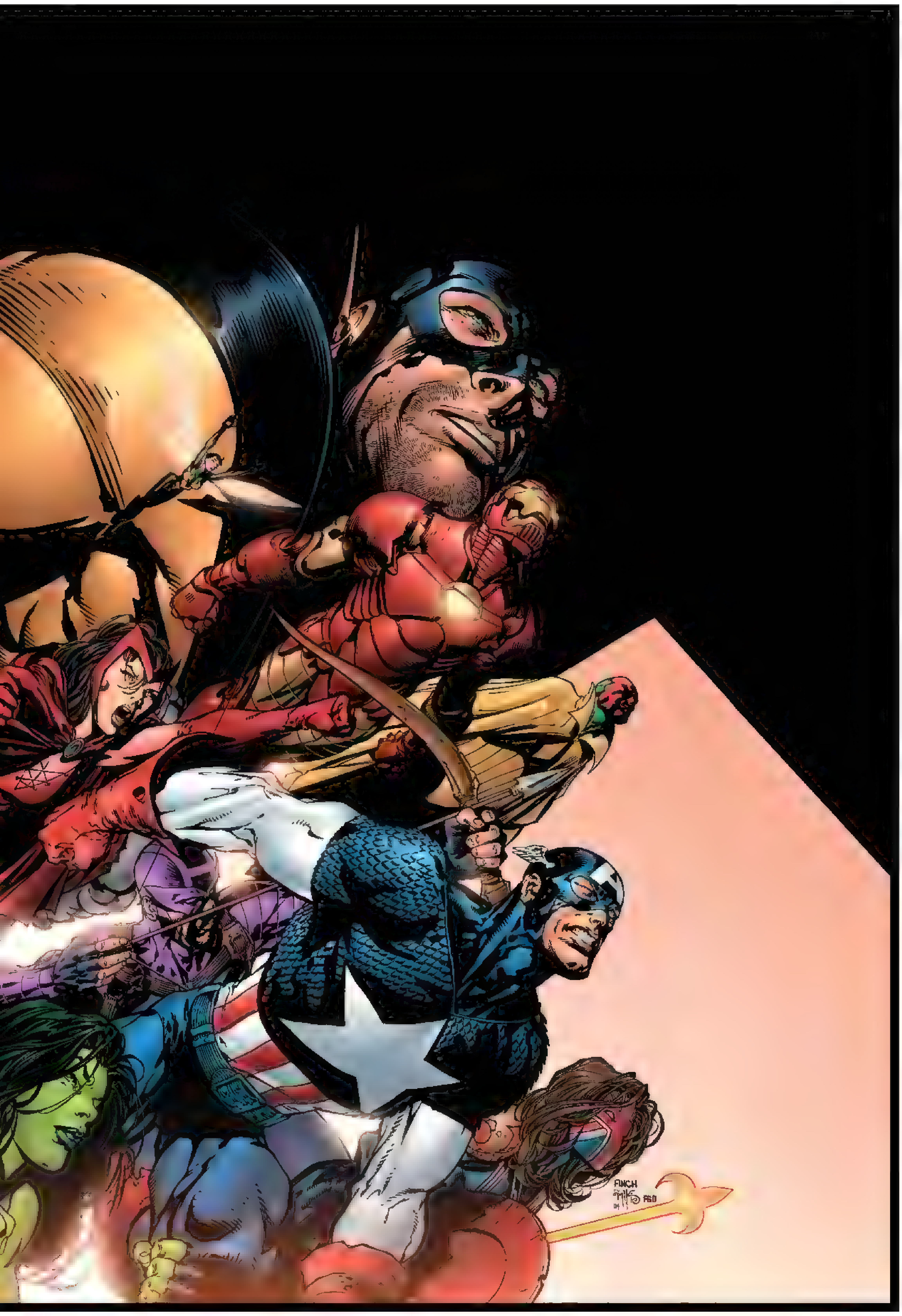
And there came a day, a day unlike any other, when Earth's mightiest heroes found themselves united against a common threat! On that day, the Avengers were born--to fight the foes no single super hero could withstand! Stan Lee presents...

EARTH'S MIGHTIEST HEROES

THE AVENGERS
DISASSEMBLED

PREVIOUSLY

"CHAOS" PART TWO OF FOUR



It is the worst day in Avengers history. The return of the believed dead Jack of Hearts ends in his untimely self-detonation, taking half of Avengers mansion and Scott Lang, aka Ant-Man, with him.

Before the Avengers can react to this tragedy, long-time member the Vision crashes a quinjet into the mansion, unleashing a small horde of unstoppable Ultron robots on the remaining members. A gruesome fight ensues that ends with She-Hulk losing control of herself, hurting many members of the team, and going on a wild rampage.

Across town, Iron Man is addressing the United Nations in his capacity as U.S. Secretary of Defense, when he unexpectedly finds himself drunk and out of control. His vicious public display in front of the united world leaders leaves him devastated and humiliated.

Now the Avengers call has gone out. Code white: the highest level emergency.

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Assistant Editors	Associate Editor	Editor	Editor in Chief	Publisher
Nicole Wiley & Molly Lazer	Andy Schmidt	Tom Brevoort	Joe Quesada	Dan Buckley

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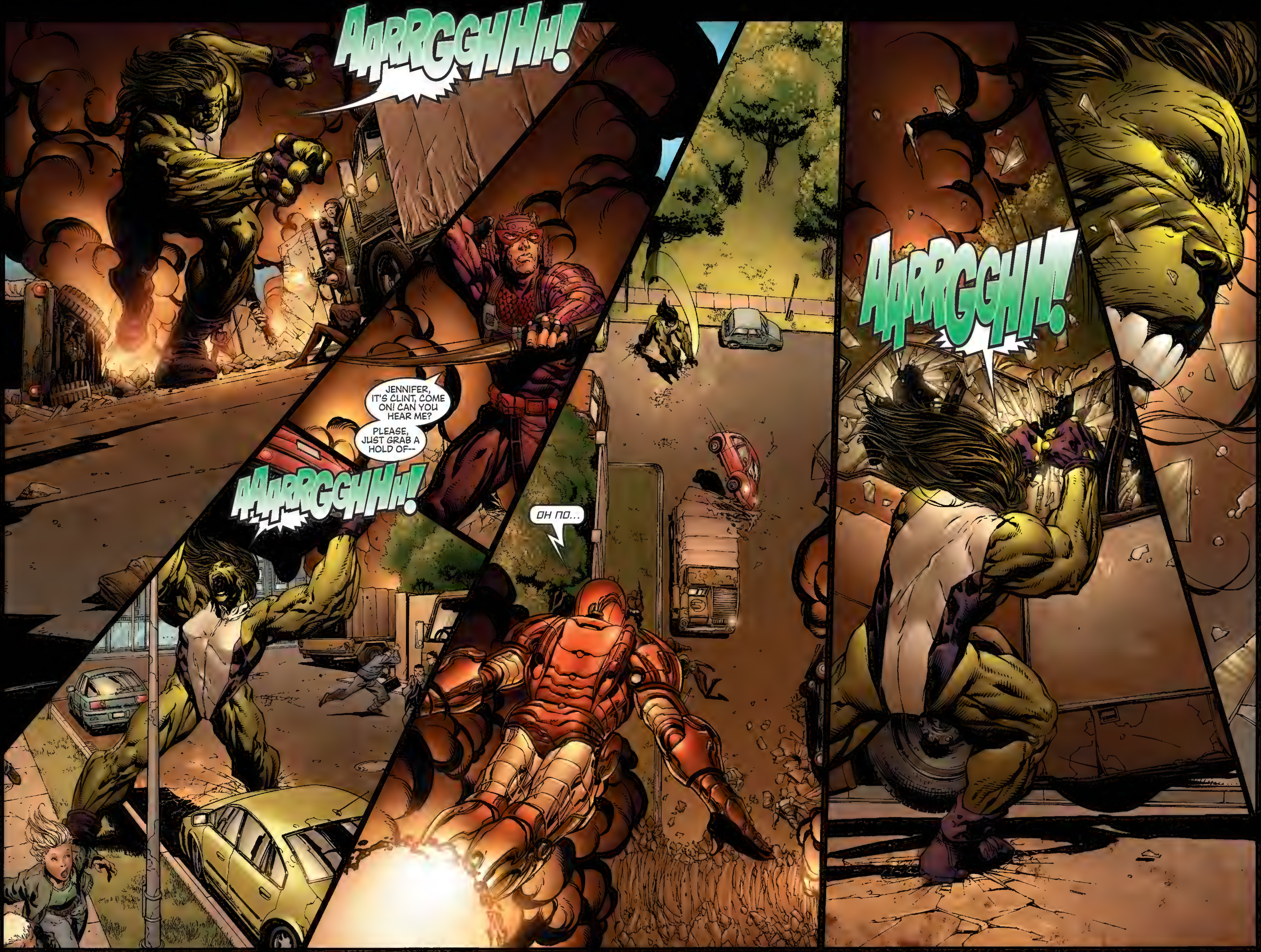
WE SHOULD TAKE A VOTE-- YEAH!!
LET'S ALL TAKE A VOTE *RIGHT NOW* TO JUST WIPE YOUR COUNTRY OFF THE MAP ALREADY AND BUILD AN AMUSEMENT PARK OUT OF THE WHOLE THING AND CALL IT A DAY.
TONY...
AUTOPILOT ENGAGED
I DON'T NEED IT REPLAYED.
WELL, SECRETARY STARK, I THINK THAT'S TOO BAD...
...BECAUSE I AM ALMOST *ENTIRELY* SURE IT *WILL* BE REPLAYED OVER AND OVER AND OVER FOR THE REST OF OUR LIVES.
IF YOU COULD JUST TELL THE PRESIDENT THAT WHAT HAPPENED WAS--
AS HIS NEW CHIEF OF STAFF, I AM OBLIGATED TO--
I KNOW WHAT IT *LOOKS* LIKE, BUT--
TONY--
JUST TELL THE PRESIDENT THAT IT WASN'T WHAT IT LOOKED LIKE AND THAT--
TONY, DO I REALLY HAVE TO *ASK* FOR YOUR RESIGNATION?
CAN I SPEAK TO THE PRESIDENT MYSELF?
I DON'T SEE THAT HAPPENING.

WELL, I HAVE TO GO.
THERE'S AN EMERGENCY AT AVENGERS MANSION.

HUUAAARRGGH!!
FOOM
NAGH!
THIS IS SPECIAL AGENT MAHER AT AVENGERS MANSION!!
WE HAVE A REAL PROBLEM DOWN HERE!
ARRGGHH!
AND IF ANYONE IS READING THIS, *PLEASE SEND THE HULKBUSTER* INITIATIVE INTO-- *WHOAH!*
JENNIFER, PLEASE*AGH!*
FUMP


AARRGGHHH!
JENNIFER, IT'S CLINT, COME ON! CAN YOU HEAR ME?
PLEASE, JUST GRAB A HOLD OF--
AAARRGGHHH!
OH NO...
AARRGGHH!

KRAKOOM
WHOOOFM
WELL, I TOOK NO PRIDE IN THAT...
TONY!! CAP IS TRAPPED UNDER A TRUCK!!
OH MY LORD--
I KNOW!
WHAT HAS HAPPENED HERE?!
JUST GET HIM OUT FROM--
IT TAKES TWO SECONDS FOR THE ARMOR TO MAGNETIZE.
OH NO...
CAP?
AGH...
CAP, ARE YOU OK?
IS SHE DOWN?
YES. WHAT HAPPENED HERE? DID SHE-HULK DO ALL OF THIS?
NO. I-- I DON'T KNOW.
GUYS, WE HAVE ANOTHER MAN DOWN. CAPTAIN BRITAIN IS OUT.
CAP! I HAVE THE WASP. SHE'S IN BAD SHAPE.
I--I SHOULDN'T HAVE MOVED HER, BUT I WAS AFRAID SOMEONE WOULD STEP ON HER.
SAM, TAKE HER TO THE--
HOSPITAL. YEAH. I'M ON MY WAY.
JUST MAKING SURE THERE WASN'T SOMETHING WE COULD DO FOR...
...HER HERE.

JAN...?
HANK, I WAS JUST ABOUT TO TAKE HER TO THE EMERGENCY--
--ROOM.
HOLD HER STEADY, SAM.
WE'LL BE THERE IN A SECOND.

BETH-ISRAEL HOSPITAL
RRRR!
THUMP
THAT REALLY HURT.
SORRY, CAPTAIN.
YOU PULLED IT OUT OF ITS SOCKET. THERE'S NO NICE WAY THAT HAPPENS AND THERE'S NO NICE WAY TO PUT IT BACK.
YOU MIGHT WANT TO TAKE IT EASY FOR THE NEXT COUPLE OF WEEKS.
DON'T THINK *THAT* WILL HAPPEN.
WELL, I HAVE SOME OF YOUR TEAMMATES TO ATTEND TO, SO IF YOU'LL EXCUSE ME.
HOW *ARE* THE OTHERS?

ETH-ISRAEL HOSPI
Patient ID No.
4758686
Name:
Kelsey Leigh
Condition:
Critical.
Client:
Jennifer Walters,
Avengers status: active
Codename:
She-Hulk
Status:
In S.H.I.E.L.D.
Custody pending
investigation
Authorization:
Nicholas Fury
S.H.I.E.L.D. Morgue: 45567
14
15
SCOTT LANG
COD: SPONTANEOUS
DISINTEGRATION/
INVESTIGATION
PENDING
VISION PROJECT.
RETURN TO STARK
ENTERPRISES PENDING
CLEARANCE AND
AUTHORIZATION.
PACKAGE 1 OF 2

COME ON, JAN.
COME ON...
BETH-ISRAEL HOSPITAL
Patient no: 2523525525
Patient Name: Van Dyne Pym, Janet
Condition: Critical
JANET, IT'S SO HARD FOR THE DOCTORS TO WORK ON YOU WHEN YOU'RE AT THIS LITTLE WASP SIZE.
WHAT BOTHERS ME HERE IS WHEN YOU'VE GOTTEN HURT IN THE *PAST...*
...YOU WOULD AUTOMATICALLY REVERT TO FULL SIZE...
AND THE FACT THAT, *THIS* TIME, YOU *HAVEN'T...*
I WON'T LIE TO YOU...YOU'RE SCARING ME.
I HAVE THEM PULLING YOUR MEDICAL FILES OFF MY SERVER AT HOME, AND THEY HAVE X-RAYS AND CAT SCANS...
SO, *HOPEFULLY,* WE'LL FIND *SOMETHING* BUT...
YOU REALLY NEED TO WAKE UP NOW, OK?

AND BELIEVE ME, NO ONE IS MORE SURPRISED TO FIND MYSELF THIS UPSET ABOUT YOU... THAN ME.
I MEAN, THE ONLY THING YOU WERE WORSE AT THAN BEING A WIFE WAS BEING AN EX-WIFE.
YOU'VE BEEN BENDING OVER BACKWARDS TO MAKE MY LIFE MISERABLE FOR A GOOD LONG WHILE NOW...
...AND I HAVE REALLY RESENTED YOU FOR IT.
BUT NOW, NOW, HERE... ALL OF A SUDDEN I DON'T CARE ABOUT ANY OF THAT.
JUST OPEN YOUR...
AND YOU KNOW WHAT TODAY TAUGHT ME?
NO MATTER WHAT I DO IN THIS LIFE, GIANT-MAN, ANT-MAN, YELLOWJACKET, DOESN'T MATTER.
ACCIDENTLY CREATING ULTRON WILL BE THE ONLY THING I AM EVER REMEMBERED FOR.
WHAT I HAVE DONE TO THIS TEAM?
THIS--THIS ISN'T THE LIFE I WANT.
THIS ISN'T HOW I WANTED US TO END UP.

WE'RE UNDER ATTACK.
YEAH, KINDA CAUGHT ON TO THAT MY--
I'M ASKING BY WHO.
WHO? WE KNOW WHO.
AND ACTUALLY, I THINK THAT THIS WAS JUST A *BAD DAY* THAT ISN'T OVER.
A BAD DAY?
YEAH, A *REALLY* BAD DAY!
WE'RE--I'M NOT BEING BRAGGY--BUT WE ARE EXTRAORDINARY INDIVIDUALS. WE ARE.
BUT--
WE DON'T HAVE GOOD AND BAD DAYS. WE HAVE *EXTRAORDINARILY* GOOD DAYS AND WE HAVE *EXTRAORDINARILY* BAD DAYS. THIS WAS--
YOU ARE BEING VERY--
THIS WAS AN *EXTRAORDINARILY* BAD DAY.
IT WAS A LOT MORE THAN *THAT.*
AND YOU KNOW WHAT ELSE? WE HAD IT COMING.
THIS AIN'T GOING TO BE THE MOST POPULAR THING I EVER SAY, BUT, YEAH, WE HAD IT COMING.
WE'RE ALL ABOUT THE SHORT-TERM. WE'RE ALL ABOUT WHATEVER IS IN FRONT OF US *THAT* SECOND, AND THEN WE'RE ON TO THE *NEXT* THING.
WE THINK JACK OF HEARTS IS DEAD. WE LEAVE HIM UP THERE IN SPACE. WHAT DO WE KNOW, RIGHT?
BECAUSE NOW WE GOT NAMOR TO DEAL WITH...OR THIS OR THAT.
BUT GUESS WHAT? JACK ISN'T DEAD. HE COMES BACK AND HE *EXPLODES* ON US JUST LIKE HE ALWAYS *FEARED* HE WOULD...
NOW SCOTT'S DEAD... WHICH MY BRAIN CAN'T EVEN *PROCESS* YET.
WE PUT OUT THE CODE WHITE. OUR HIGHEST PRIORITY CALL.
AND THE VISION SHOWS UP AND LAUNCHES AN ULTRON ATTACK.
AND I AM SAYING THAT *ALL* OF THIS HAPPENING IN SUCH A SMALL AMOUNT OF TIME IS NOT A *"BAD DAY,"* IT'S--
YEAH, BUT THIS ULTRON ROBOT, THIS THING IS YOUR *WORST* ENEMY.
SO LET'S SAY...WHAT? THAT YEARS AGO--
--YEARS AGO HE COULD HAVE IMPLANTED SOME, I DON'T KNOW, SOME CODE, OR A CHIP OR WHATEVER...

A COMMAND.
A *COMMAND* THAT SAID WHENEVER THE AVENGERS HIT THE CODE WHITE--
--WHENEVER WE'RE AT OUR *WORST* MOMENT--
--LAUNCH THIS PRE-PROGRAMMED ATTACK.
IT'S KIND OF GENIUS, REALLY.
I MEAN, IT WORKED.
I THINK-- YOU KNOW WHAT? I THINK THAT'S A PRETTY GOOD GUESS.
HE'S DONE WORSE TO US!
WE DON'T KNOW *HOW* TO KILL ULTRON. *REALLY* KILL HIM.
HE'S A.I., RIGHT? WE DON'T KNOW *HOW* HE SUSTAINS LIFE AS AN ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE.
NO, *YOU* DON'T. I DO.
HE COULD BE ALIVE IN YOUR ARMOR FOR ALL YOU KNOW.
AND SHE-HULK?
WELL, YOU GUYS KEEP PUTTING HULKS ON THE TEAM AND YOU'RE ALL *SHOCKED* WHEN IT BACKFIRES.
I'M TELLING YOU-- LISTEN-- I'M NOT *HAPPY* ABOUT ANY OF THIS...
...BUT I'M SAYING, THE WAY WE LIVE--WE SORT OF HAD A DAY LIKE THIS COMING.
MORE?
WELL, THERE'S MORE TO IT THAN THIS--
JUST LISTEN--
I WAS ADDRESSING THE U.N. EARLIER AND ALL OF A--
DID YOU TELL THEM?!
HANK, JUST CALM--
TELL THEM, TONY! TELL THEM WHAT YOU DID!

WHAT DID YOU--?
HE WAS DRUNK!
HE GOT UP IN FRONT OF THE U.N. DRUNK!
HE GOT ALL CRAZY AND HE THREATENED TO KILL THE LATVERIAN AMBASSADOR IN FRONT OF THE GATHERED WORLD LEADERS.
LISTEN, JUST--
IT WAS-- IT WAS A DISASTER.
I WASN'T DRUNK!!
SAY IT AGAIN, TONY!!
I WAS THERE!!
I WASN'T DRUNK. I DIDN'T HAVE A DRINK. I HAVEN'T HAD ONE IN WHO KNOWS HOW LONG.
I WAS OVERCOME WITH THE FEELING--THE FEELING OF BEING DRUNK--I WASN'T IN CONTROL.
THAT'S WHY I THINK THIS IS SOME SORT OF ATTACK.
ALL OF THIS.
ALL OF IT HAPPENING AT THE SAME TIME.
THE MANSION, BOOM. SCOTT. BOOM. VISION. BOOM.
AND BOOM! I'M ASKED TO STEP DOWN AS SECRETARY OF DEFENSE.
WHEN DID THAT HAPPEN?
AT THE EXACT SAME TIME AS YOU WERE DEALING WITH ALL OF THIS. SEE? YOU SEE? ALL OF THIS.
OH MAN...
YOU'RE ACTUALLY USING THIS, THIS NIGHTMARE, TO WHITEWASH WHAT YOU DID TODAY? YOU WOULD DO THAT?
NO. I AM SAYING THEY'RE CONNECTED.
HEY, I CREATED ULTRON. I'LL TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR MY NIGHTMARE. DON'T COME HERE--
YOU DON'T BELIEVE ME? FINE.
I DON'T.
REALLY?
I WAS RIGHT THERE.
IS THAT IT?
YOU ALL DON'T BELIEVE ME.

MAN SAYS WHAT THE MAN SAYS. I BELIEVE YOU.
I BELIEVE YOU.
WELL...
MY DAD WAS AN ALCOHOLIC. I TOLD YOU THIS.
IT'S HARD FOR ME TO HEAR YOU SAY THESE THINGS WITHOUT HEARING THE CRAP *HE* USED TO SAY.
AND YOU'RE KIND OF WOBBLY *NOW,* MAN. I THOUGHT IT WAS FROM ALL THE DRAMA, BUT--
WELL, THAT'S JUST *GREAT.*
I'M NOT JUDGING. I'M SAYING THAT THIS IS SOMETHING WE HAVE TO DEAL WITH TOGETHER--
I CANNOT *TELL* YOU HOW HAPPY I AM THAT I SPENT OVER HALF OF MY PERSONAL FORTUNE FINANCIALLY *SUPPORTING* THE AVENGERS--
--SO THAT SUPPORT CAN COME BACK TO ME LIKE *THIS.*
CAP, I DIDN'T MEAN THAT HE SHOULD--
REALLY-- MY HEART IS SO *FILLED* WITH YOUR RESPECT AND UNDERSTANDING--
TONY!
TONY!

THANK YOU SO *VERY* MUCH.
SHOULD I GO AFTER HIM?
GIVE HIM A MINUTE. HE'LL GET IT TOGETHER.
CAN'T FLY THAT FAST ANYHOW.
I DIDN'T MEAN HE SHOULD BAIL. HE ASKED ME A QUESTION. I GAVE HIM AN ANSWER.
WHAT DID YOU *THINK* HE WAS GOING TO DO?
I BELIEVE TONY.
WELL, THAT'S YOU.
HE *DID* SEEM SHAKY AND SWEATY. HE'S NOT A SHAKY-SWEATY GUY.
CAP, YOU DIDN'T SEE WHAT I SAW TODAY. YOU HAVEN'T SEEN THE NEWS.
THAT BAD?
IT'S ALL OVER THE TV. LOOK, CAN YOU SEE IT FROM HERE?

THE U.N. IS HAVING AN EMERGENCY MEETING *RIGHT NOW* AND YOU CAN ONLY IMAGINE WHAT THE SUBJECT IS.
THEY'RE GOING TO *BAIL* ON US?
UH-OH.
THERE'S SOMETHING GOING ON AT THE MANSION.
BEEP BEEP
BEEP BEEP
I THOUGHT THE MANSION WAS IN S.H.I.E.L.D. LOCKDOWN.
IT IS.
I'LL MEET YOU THERE.
I AM SO NOT IN THE MOOD FOR ANY MORE OF THIS.
I'M STAYING WITH JANET.
DO WHAT YOU THINK YOU MUST.
A
YOU SURE WE SHOULD PARK THE QUINJET ACROSS THE STREET LIKE THIS? IN THE PARK?
DID YOU SEE WHAT I SAW?
THE MANSION'S A CRIME SCENE.
THIS WILL HAVE TO DO.
I SAW IT.
WERE YOU READY FOR THIS?

BENDIS · FINCH · MIKI
THE AVENGERS
DISASSEMBLED
MARVEL
PSR 502
CHAOS
PART 3
FRANK'S TATTOOS
CRIME LAB
ONE OF THESE AVENGERS WILL DIE!

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And there came a day, a day unlike any other, when Earth's mightiest heroes found themselves united against a common threat! On that day, the Avengers were born--to fight the foes no single super hero could withstand! Stan Lee presents...

EARTH'S MIGHTIEST HEROES

THE AVENGERS

DISASSEMBLED

PREVIOUSLY

"CHAOS" PART THREE OF FOUR

It is the worst day in Avengers history. The return of the believed-dead Jack of Hearts ends in his untimely self-detonation, taking half of Avengers Mansion and Scott Lang, aka Ant-Man, with him.

Before the Avengers can react to this tragedy, long-time member the Vision crashes a quinjet into the mansion, unleashing a small horde of unstoppable Ultron robots on the remaining members. A gruesome fight ensues that ends with She-Hulk losing control of herself, hurting many members of the team, and going on a wild rampage.

Across town, Iron Man is addressing the United Nations in his capacity as U. S. Secretary of Defense when he finds himself inexplicably drunk and out of control. His vicious public display in front of the united world leaders leaves him devastated and humiliated.

Now the Avengers call has gone out. Code White, the highest-level emergency.

When Captain America and Hawkeye return to the mansion they are met with a large gathering of one-time Avengers and associatesw, ready to help.

They have answered the call.

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WHY HAVE YOU ALL COME HERE?
WHAT ELSE WOULD YOU HAVE US DO, CAPTAIN?
THIS-- WE WERE *ALL* AVENGERS ONCE UPON A TIME. AND THE AVENGERS ARE IN TROUBLE.
THE CALL WENT OUT. WE HAVE ANSWERED IT.
AND, AS I WAS JUST TELLING YOU *ALL:* NOBLE AS YOUR PRESENCE HERE MIGHT BE, I NEED YOU PEOPLE TO LEAVE. IMMEDIATELY.
BUT, COLONEL FURY, FROM WHAT YOU'VE TOLD ME, THIS IS ONE OF, IF NOT *THE,* WORST DAYS IN AVENGERS HISTORY.
I THINK EVERYONE IS HERE OUT OF A SENSE OF--
THAT'S FINE AND GOOD, RICHARDS. BUT GO DO IT OVER THERE IN CENTRAL PARK.
THIS IS A *LIVE CRIME SCENE.*
AT LEAST TWO AVENGERS *DIED* HERE JUST HOURS AGO, AND YOU PEOPLE ARE *TAINTING* THE CRIME SCENE.
YOU'RE A SCIENTIST. YOU OF ALL PEOPLE KNOW...
ANY ONE OF YOU COULD BE EMITTING *TOXINS* OR *RADIATIONS* INTO THE AIR THAT ARE CORRUPTING THE ENVIRONMENT--AFFECTING THE ATMOSPHERE.
NO MATTER HOW SUBTLE, NO MATTER *HOW* INFINITESIMAL.
WE HAVE *NO IDEA* WHAT WENT ON HERE TODAY... AND UNTIL S.H.I.E.L.D. GETS THE PROPER FIELD READINGS...
...WHAT YOU PEOPLE ARE DOING HERE RIGHT NOW IS *ILLEGAL!!*
DISPERSE!!

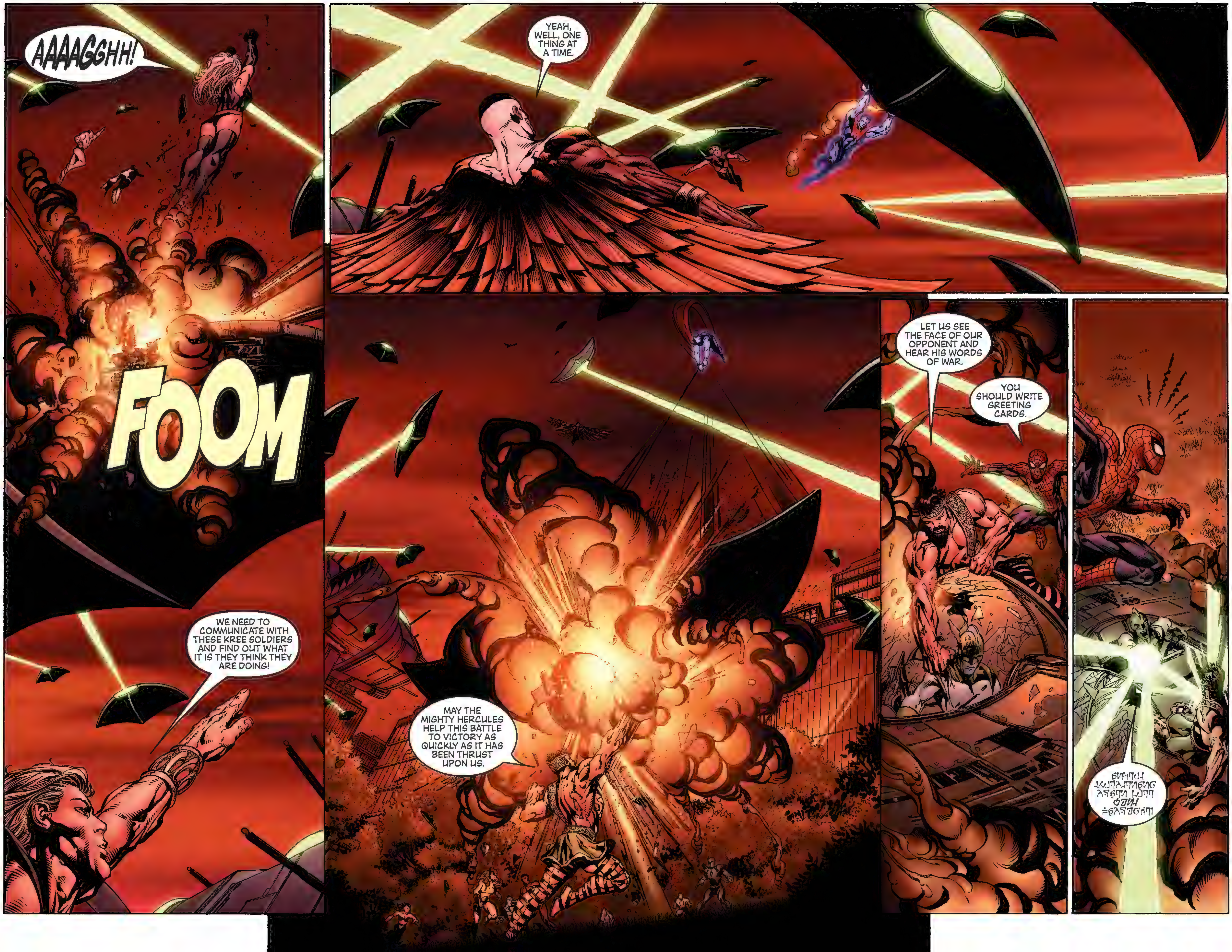
CAP, IS IT TRUE?
IS SCOTT LANG REALLY DEAD?
YES.
I APPRECIATE YOU ALL ANSWERING THE CALL.
I APPRECIATE YOUR DEDICATION TO THE INSTITUTION...
...BUT FURY IS RIGHT. AND--AND WE NEED TO LISTEN TO *HIM* NOW.
WE NEED TO FIND OUT WHAT HAS HAPPENED TO US AND WHY--
UH OH...
DO YOU WANT SOME MORE BAD NEWS?
NOT REALLY.
THEY'RE GOING LIVE RIGHT NOW.
HOLD ON-- JUST LIKE *THAT?*
CNN HAS IT.
WELL, THAT'S JUST *GREAT!!*
IGNORANT PIECE OF #$%^!
COLONEL?
WHAT HAPPENED?
IT'S HAPPENING NOW.

IN LIGHT OF TODAY'S UNPLEASANT EVENTS--
--THE UNITED NATIONS HAS UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO DISAVOW ITS RELATIONSHIP WITH THE ORGANIZATION KNOWN AS THE AVENGERS.
THIS IS NOT TO DISCOUNT THE STAGGERING ACHIEVEMENTS THEY HAVE HAD IN THE PURSUIT OF THIS WORLD'S SAFETY--
--BUT IN LIGHT OF TODAY'S PUBLIC PERFORMANCE BY ANTHONY STARK...
--MIXED WITH THE GROWING CONCERNS OVER THE STABILITY OF SUCH SO-CALLED "HERO" ORGANIZATIONS, WE WILL BE REVISITING THIS--
WELL, *THAT* WAS FAST.
THAT'S HOW THEY DO IT, HAWKEYE.
LIKE A BAND-AID. RIGHT OFF.
THEY SOLD US OUT!
ALL WE'VE DONE FOR THEM AND AT OUR WORST MOMENT-- BOOM! SOLD US OUT.
THEY DON'T *OWE* US ANY--
NOT SO MUCH AS A PHONE CALL. THEY DON'T OWE US A *PHONE CALL?* BUNCH OF SUITS.
THEY ARE DOING WHAT THEY THINK IS BEST.
OH, PLEASE!!
THERE'S A BIGGER PICTURE-- A WORLD PICTURE THAT THEY HAVE TO CONSIDER.
YOU'RE ANGRY AND YOU--
CAP, LISTEN, ALL DUE RESPECT, BUT WE SHOULD NEVER HAVE EVEN BEEN INVOLVED WITH THEM IN THE FIRST PLACE.
THE BUREAUCRACY OF IT ALL WAS STRANGLING THIS TEAM TO DEATH.
WE AREN'T POLITICIANS, WE'RE SUPER HEROES.
WE'RE THE GUYS PEOPLE CAN *COUNT* ON BECAUSE THEY KNOW THEY *CAN'T* REALLY COUNT ON ANYONE ELSE!
AND IF I'M MAD ABOUT ANYTHING, IT'S THAT I *KNEW* THIS WAS COMING ONE DAY! THESE SUITS! I KNEW IT!
WELL, FINE. BUT I THINK SOME OF YOUR ANGER IS A BIT MISDIRECTED--
NO. C'MON, MAN, HE'S RIGHT.
WE JUST LOST OUR FRIENDS. PEOPLE DIED. HEROES DIED.
THEY SIDESWIPED US WHILE WE WERE DOWN. IT'S A SLEAZY MOVE.
WELL...POOR TONY STARK.
YEAH, AND HE HAS MORE BAD NEWS COMING.
THEY ASKED HIM TO STEP DOWN?
YEAH.
FROM SECRETARY OF DEFENSE?
YEAH. AND NOT IN THE NICE WAY.
WHY ARE YOU *PEOPLE STILL HERE?!*
WHAT PART OF *LEAVE...*
...DO YOU--

HELICARRIER, THIS IS FURY. WHAT ARE YOU READING?
I'M SORRY, COLONEL?
WHAT ARE YOU READING, SOLDIER? I NEED INTEL, ASAP.
ON WHAT, EXACTLY, SIR?
THERE'S AN ALIEN CRAFT SPINNING AROUND OVER OUR HEADS--
UH, I'M NOT PICKING UP ANYTHING, COLONEL.
CAP?
ANY AVENGER WHO CAN FLY-- ASSEMBLE.
WARBIRD, TAKE THE LEAD! GET UP THERE AND SEE WHAT THIS IS--
NICK. YOU CAN'T STOP THEM. SO DON'T.
NO, WE HAVE TO--
WHAT ARE WE LOOKING FOR?
YOU DON'T SEE THIS?
UH, I SEE IT.
IF THAT HELPS.
OH MY GOD...
I, UH, I NEED TO GO GET SOME MORE ARROWS.

HELICARRIER!!
STILL NOTHING, COLONEL. WHAT EXACTLY ARE WE LOOKING FOR?
LOOK OUT YOUR $%^&ING WINDOW!
OH! OH MY--
YEAH.
FABAM
FOOMP
AGH!

ANY OF YOU JOKERS SPEAK KREE?
I BARELY SPEAK ENGLISH GOOD.
WHY ARE THEY HERE? WHY ARE THEY DOING THIS?
WELL, MAYBE I'M JUST PUNCHY FROM BEING IN EVERY WORLD WAR SINCE THEY INVENTED THEM...
...BUT IT DON'T LOOK LIKE THEY'RE HERE FOR A $$%%^IN' PICNIC!
FORCE SHIELDS!
CARRIER!! I NEED DETAILED INTEL ON KREE DEFENSE SYSTEMS AND ATTACK PATTERNS, AND I NEED IT NOW!!


AAAAGGHH!
FOOM
YEAH, WELL, ONE THING AT A TIME.
WE NEED TO COMMUNICATE WITH THESE KREE SOLDIERS AND FIND OUT WHAT IT IS THEY THINK THEY ARE DOING!
MAY THE MIGHTY HERCULES HELP THIS BATTLE TO VICTORY AS QUICKLY AS IT HAS BEEN THRUST UPON US.
LET US SEE THE FACE OF OUR OPPONENT AND HEAR HIS WORDS OF WAR.
YOU SHOULD WRITE GREETING CARDS.

THWIP
HEY, YOU FORGOT TO TIP YOUR VALET.
THWAP
AARRGH!
CLANG
YOU MIND TELLING ME WHAT THIS IS ABOUT, SOLDIER?

AAGGH!
QUASAR!
WHY HAVE YOU ATTACKED US? WHY IS THE KREE ARMADA ATTACKING EARTH SOIL?
AND TRANSLATE IT FOR US, SLAPPY--WE KNOW YOU CAN.
YOU-- YOU AVENGERS INSULT OUR ENTIRE WARRIOR RACE.
WE ASKED YOU A QUESTION!
WE HAVE COME TO REMOVE YOU FROM THE HISTORY BOOKS OF THE GREAT KREE CULTURE!!
WHY NOW? OF ALL TIMES-- WHY NOW?
IT WAS FORETOLD BY THE SUPREME INTELLIGENCE THAT THIS DAY AND TIME WOULD COME. THIS IS THE END OF THE AVENGERS!!
AND THE KREE HAVE ARRIVED TO SEE IT SO. YOU WILL DIE BY THE HAND OF THOSE YOU BETRAYED--
HOW DID WE BETRAY YOU?
THIS IS THE DAY!!

THIS AIN'T RIGHT!!
ON MANY LEVELS.
NAH-- I MEAN IT!
THESE KREE-- THEY HAVE US AT A TOTAL DISADVANTAGE!!
THEY HAVE THE TECH AND MACHINERY TO LEVEL NEW YORK WITHOUT EVEN BREAKING A SWEAT.
THERE AIN'T NO REASON FOR ANY ONE OF THEM TO TOUCH EARTH DIRT!!
THERE'S NO REASON FOR A GROUND ASSAULT!!
I'M TELLIN' YA!!
THIS AIN'T RIGHT!!

OK, YA LI'L PISHERS...
...TIME TO END THIS.
FIZZZ
FIZZZ
FIZZZ
FIZZZ
FIZZZ
COME ON, AVENGERS!
LET'S END THIS OUR WAY!!
THESE BLUE !@#$% CAME AROUND *TODAY?* LOOKING FOR A *FIGHT?*
FTUNK
FTUNK
FTUNK
FTUNK
LET'S SEND THEM HOME WITH SOMETHING TO TALK ABOUT!

YOU ALIEN %^&*S PICKED THE WRONG DAY TO SCREW WITH *THIS* AVENGER!!
IN THE FUTURE, WHAT YOU NEED TO DO IS--
AW, CRAP!!
NEED SOME HELP HERE!!
HAWKEYE!!

NOT LIKE THIS!!
NOT LIKE THIS!!
HAWKEYE!!!
LIKE THIS!!

AVENGERS ASSEMBLE!

NO!! NONONONO NOOOOO!!
WHAT HAPPENED, CAROL?
THEY'RE GONE!!
GONE GONE?
HELICARRIER?
THERE'S NO READINGS THAT WE CAN--
WHEN I GET UP THERE, I WANT ANSWERS!!
YOU GUYS ARE SERIOUSLY UNDERPERFORMING!!
BEN, DON'T--
WE GOTTA AT LEAST GET HIS BODY OUT OF THERE! THE GUY DESERVES A NORMAL--
THE HELL IS THIS?
IT'S NOT PAPER--
IT AIN'T METAL--
IT SEEMS LIKE--I DON'T KNOW WHAT THAT IS.
SOMEONE BETTER GIVE ME SOME ANSWERS BEFORE I TOTALLY LOSE MY--
AND YOU WITH THE BIG BRAIN.
I'M SORRY I COULD NOT GET HERE SOONER--

BUT I THOUGHT BY NOW YOU WOULD UNDERSTAND THE TRUE NATURE OF THESE ATTACKS.
THE MAGICS ARE BEING ABUSED.
DOCTOR STRANGE--?
OH NO...

BENDIS · FINCH · MIKI
THE AVENGERS®
DISASSEMBLED
MARVEL®
PSR 503
CHAOS
PART 4
FINCH
DANNY MIKI '04
fgd

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THEN.
WOW, DID I NEED *THIS.* I AM SO CRAZY IN MY HEAD TODAY.
WHAT'S GOING ON, JANET?
I--LISTEN, WANDA, I'LL TELL YOU... BUT YOU CAN'T TELL *ANYONE.*
WHAT HAPPENED?
I HAD A...BIT OF A SCARE.
ARE YOU OKAY?
SSSHH, I'M FINE.
IT'S JUST--MY MONTHLY FRIEND CAME A LITTLE LATE, AND I THOUGHT I MIGHT BE--YOU KNOW...
YOU THOUGHT YOU WERE PREGNANT?
SSHH! HEY, SHH!
I'M NOT. I JUST *THOUGHT* I WAS.
KAKE
I WAS REALLY FREAKED OUT BECAUSE THAT IS THE *LAST* THING I NEED.
WITH ALL THE CRAP IN MY LIFE RIGHT NOW...
THAT'S WHAT THE WORLD NEEDS...
A LITTLE CLINT BARTON WALKING AROUND.
ARE YOU TWO STILL SEEING EACH OTHER?
THAT WOULD ENTAIL THE TWO OF US HAVING AN ADULT CONVERSATION ABOUT OUR FEELINGS, WHICH, CLEARLY, IS NOT EITHER OF OUR STRONG SUITS.
UGH, CAN YOU IMAGINE? ME WITH A *KID?*
LIKE A KID COULD GROW UP NORMAL IN *THIS* ENVIRONMENT.
AVENGERS SHOULD *NOT* HAVE KIDS. *SUPER HEROES* SHOULD NOT HAVE KIDS. *THAT* SHOULD BE A *RULE.*
AND YOU THOUGHT YOU COULD HAVE TWO?

WHAT?
WHAT?
WHAT DOES THAT MEAN? TWO OF WHAT?
OH, UM, NOTHING. NO.
WHAT DID I SAY? I AM JUST TIPSY AS ALL GET-OUT. MARGARITAS AND THE NEW YORK SUN DO NOT MIX.
I GOTTA PEE. YOU GOTTA PEE? I GOTTA PEE. I'LL BE BACK IN TWO SHAKES.

NOW.
PLEASE, DOCTOR STRANGE, I DON'T UNDERSTAND.
WHAT IS HAPPENING TO US?

MOST OF YOU I HAVE MET, BUT OTHERS I HAVE NOT.
MY NAME IS DOCTOR STEPHEN STRANGE.
I AM A PRACTITIONER OF THE MYSTIC ARTS, AND I HAVE ACHIEVED MASTER LEVEL.
I AM TALKING TO YOU FROM THE ASTRAL PLANE--A METAPHYSICAL DIMENSION LAYERED ON TOP OF THE ONE IN WHICH YOU LIVE.
I HAVE TAKEN THE LIBERTY OF CASTING A HANDFUL OF CLOAKING SPELLS AROUND THIS ENTIRE AREA.
I HAVE DONE ALL THIS TO KEEP THE UNWANTED EYES AND EARS OF THOSE WHO WOULD CHOOSE TO *HARM* YOU *BLIND...* AT LEAST MOMENTARILY.
I FEAR WE DO NOT HAVE LONG.
CLEARLY YOU ARE IN IMMEDIATE AND GRAVE DANGER FROM A MAGIC FORCE OF IMMENSE POWER.
I AM TRULY SORRY I COULD NOT BE HERE TO STOP THIS BEFORE IT STARTED.
BUT A GREAT DEAL OF MY STUDIES INCLUDE INTENSIVE MEDITATIONS.
I WAS IN A PLACE WHERE I COULD NOT *"SEE"* WHAT WAS HAPPENING TO YOU UNTIL IT WAS TOO LATE.
BUT NOW I SEE THAT THE MAGICS HAVE BEEN MOLESTED, IN AN ATTACK AIMED AT YOU.
DOCTOR, PLEASE!
WHO DID THIS? WHO MURDERED OUR TEAMMATES?
THE EVENTS OF THE PAST DAY. THE DEVASTATION. THE BEDLAM.
I MUST ASK YOU...
...IS THERE ANYONE THE AVENGERS HAVE DEALT WITH WHO HAS *THIS* LEVEL OF MYSTIC POWER?
SOMEONE WHO COULD ORCHESTRATE THIS LEVEL OF CHAOS?

THEN.
AGATHA?
WANDA MAXIMOFF.
YOU GAVE ME A BIT OF A FRIGHT JUST NOW.
COME SIT. WE HAVEN'T SPOKEN IN A GOOD LONG TIME.
AGATHA, I --
WHY DO PEOPLE THINK I ONCE HAD TWO CHILDREN?
WHERE ARE MY CHILDREN?
SIT DOWN, WANDA.
SIT DOWN AND WE'LL HAVE A--
TELL ME WHERE MY CHILDREN ARE!

NOW.
NO...
CAPTAIN!
NO, SHE-- SHE'S A GOOD PERSON. SHE'S-- SHE'S OUR FRIEND!
SHE DOESN'T HAVE THAT IN HER BLOOD.
ACTUALLY SHE DOES.
SHE *IS* MAGNETO'S DAUGHTER.
AND BEFORE SHE WAS AN AVENGER, SHE WAS A MUTANT TERRORIST.
SHE WAS A PREMIERE MEMBER OF THE BROTHERHOOD.
AND SHE MARRIED A ROBOT.
NO OFFENSE.
I MEAN, HE WAS. IS. THE VISION *IS* A ROBOT.
IF I WAS DATING A ROBOT, YOU'D ALL TALK ABOUT ME BEHIND *MY* BACK.
THE VISION'S *NOT* A ROBOT. HE WAS AS REAL AS ANY OF--
HE TOLD ME HE WAS A ROBOT.
ANDROID.
HEY, *I* LIKE HIM. I WAS JUST SAYING, YOU KNOW--
WHAT ARE YOU EVEN *DOING* HERE?
I WAS HELPING WITH THE ALIENS A SECOND AGO--
I DON'T UNDERSTAND. *WHY* DO YOU THINK SHE WOULD--
WANDA'S LIFE HAS HAD A LOT OF MISFORTUNE, BUT NOTHING THAT WOULD SUGGEST SHE WAS CAPABLE OF *THIS.*
EVEN IF YOU INCLUDE WHAT HAPPENED WITH HER CHILDREN.
...AND THAT *WAS* SAD.
I DELIVERED THOSE CHILDREN.
DID SOMETHING HAPPEN TO HER CHILDREN?

THEY--IT, UM, IT ENDS UP THAT SHE, UM, *CONJURED* THEM INTO EXISTENCE.
(IF THAT'S THE WORD.)
THEY WEREN'T ACTUALLY... REAL.
SHE CREATED THEM WITH HER HEX POWERS. SHE *WILLED* THEM INTO EXISTENCE.
SHE WANTED THEM VERY BADLY, IS HOW IT WAS TOLD TO ME.
SHE, IN A WAY, *TRICKED* HERSELF INTO GIVING BIRTH TO THEM. BUT THEY--THEY DIDN'T *REALLY* EXIST.
AGATHA HARKNESS--THAT WOMAN--HER MENTOR...
AGATHA, SHE--SHE WAS THE ONE WHO FIGURED OUT WHAT THE CHILDREN REALLY WERE.
SO SHE *"ERASED"* THEM.
SHE TOOK CARE OF IT.
WHY DIDN'T YOU PEOPLE COME TO ME WHEN THIS HAPPENED?
DOCTOR, WHAT ARE YOU THINKING?
PLEASE, PLEASE HEAR ME OUT, WE DON'T HAVE MUCH TIME...
THERE HAS ALWAYS BEEN AN UNEASY STRUCTURE TO MAXIMOFF'S POWER.
AS A MUTANT--SHE WAS *BORN* WITH HER POWERS OVER MAGIC.
HER "HEX" POWER.
IT WASN'T *EARNED* THROUGH SPIRITUALITY.
IT WAS *GIVEN* TO HER WITHOUT UNDERSTANDING OF ITS CONSEQUENCE.
BUT MAYBE THE RULES FOR HER DON'T APP--
I'M SORRY, BUT, DIDN'T SHE HAVE TROUBLE CONTROLLING HER POWERS IN THE PAST?
YES.

WAIT! IF--IF IT'S CHAOS MAGIC, THEN IT CAN BE *REVERSED.*
YOU CAN BRING THEM *BACK!* PLEASE.
DOCTOR, PLEASE, REVERSE THIS BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE.
BRING BACK SCOTT! BRING BACK HAWKEYE! BRING BACK--
I--I'M SORRY IF I DIDN'T MAKE MYSELF CLEAR.
MAGIC ISN'T AN ILLUSION.
THIS--TODAY--THIS WAS NOT A MAGIC *TRICK.*
THESE EVENTS--THEY HAPPENED. YOUR FRIENDS HAVE--
THEY *ARE* DEAD.
I HAD TRIED YEARS AGO TO TAKE WANDA ON AS A STUDENT.
BUT HER OBLIGATIONS TO HER FAMILY AND TO YOU, HER TEAMMATES, DISTRACTED HER.
I AM UNSURE AS TO THE *LEVEL* OF HER POWER, BUT HER HEXES ALWAYS SEEMED MUCH TOO *LIMITED* TO CREATE WHAT HAS GONE ON HERE.
WE SHOULD TELL YOU, DOCTOR, NOT TOO LONG AGO... SHE TAPPED INTO A POWER SOURCE THAT SHE CALLED--SHE CALLS IT--
THE CHAOS MAGICS.
YES. SHE CAN CONTROL THE PROBABILITIES OF REALITY AND--
WHAT ARE YOU PEOPLE TALKING ABOUT?

STOP! NO!! NO, WANDA DID NOT *DO* THIS!
THEN WHERE IS SHE, CAROL? SHE'S THE ONLY ONE NOT HERE!
THOR ISN'T.
YEAH, AND DIDN'T YOU GUYS FIGHT THAT LOKI GUY ONCE? COULD IT BE THAT LOKI GUY?
GOD OF MISCHIEF.
WANDA DID *NOT* DO THIS! AND, REALLY, I'M OFFENDED THAT YOU--
MAGNETO'S DAUGHTER? I DIDN'T KNOW *THAT.*
YOU PEOPLE ARE SAYING THAT SHE KILLED THE VISION? THAT SHE KILLED HER OWN HUSBAND?
YOU'RE WRONG.
WANDA WAS WITH ME TODAY AT THE U.N.
SHE WAS RIGHT THERE.
SHE WAS NOT THE ONE WHO DID THIS.
THERE'S A GREAT POSSIBILITY, IRON MAN, THAT SHE MAY NOT EVEN BE AWARE OF WHAT SHE IS DOING.
DOCTOR, I'M SORRY, I HAVE AN IMMENSE AMOUNT OF RESPECT FOR YOU...
...BUT WE CANNOT ACCUSE A TEAMMATE OF THIS KIND OF TERRORISM.
I NEED MORE THAN YOUR THEORY.
MY THEORY...
LISTEN TO ME. THIS CHAOS MAGIC-- THE SOURCE OF HER NEW *"REALITY-ALTERING POWERS..."*
I AM THE MASTER OF THE MYSTIC ARTS--AND I AM TELLING YOU...
...THERE'S NO SUCH *THING* AS CHAOS MAGIC.

PLEASE FORGET WE ARE TALKING ABOUT YOUR FRIEND.
AND LISTEN TO ME TELL YOU THE STORY OF AN ORPHANED MUTANT WITH A SORDID, VIOLENT PAST...
...WITH POWERS SHE DID NOT EARN NOR CAN SHE CONTROL...
POWERS SHE NEVER FULLY UNDERSTOOD.
CAN YOU UNDERSTAND THE DELICATE MINDSET OF A WOMAN, A PERSON, WHO HAS CONTROL OVER REALITY?
IT MEANS REALITY CONTROLS ***HER.***
IMAGINATION BECOMES THE ENEMY.
STRUCTURE DISAPPEARS.
REALITY, EVENTUALLY, AS SHE KNOWS IT, STARTS TO SLIP AWAY. ELUDE HER. BLUR.
DRAMA, CONFLICT, TRAGEDY. THEY BECOME ***EXCUSES*** TO CHANGE THE WORLD TO FIT THE IMAGE THAT SHE HAS FOR IT.
ANYTHING SHE DOESN'T LIKE, SHE CAN CHANGE. NO MATTER HOW SLIGHT.
PEOPLE. PLACES. THINGS.
EVERYTHING IS HERS TO CHANGE.
BUT EVERY TIME SHE DOES THAT, EVERY TIME SHE GIVES IN TO HER DESIRES, NO MATTER HOW ***NOBLE*** THEY MAY BE...
...A LITTLE MORE OF HER SLIPS AWAY.
SHE LOSES HERSELF. HER REASON.
BUT SHE STRUGGLES QUIETLY EVERY DAY TO KEEP IT IN CHECK--TO KEEP IT ALL TOGETHER.
FOR A PERSON OF STRONG MIND AND BODY, FOR A PERSON OF PURE SPIRIT...
...THE TASK OF COPING WITH THESE POWERS WOULD BE ***ALL-CONSUMING.***
BUT HERE'S A WOMAN FOR WHOM, BY THE NATURE OF HER UPBRINGING AND CHOSEN OCCUPATION...
...EVERY ***DAY*** IS STRESSFUL, CHAOTIC...
...AND AFTER A LIFE LIVED WITH LOST LOVE, VIOLENCE, AND DRAMA, WHAT DOES SHE DO?
SHE SAYS TO HERSELF: ***"I DESERVE HAPPINESS. I WANT TO BRING SOMETHING INTO THIS WORLD THAT IS GOOD. THAT I CAN LOVE."***
AND SHE GIVES BIRTH TO CHILDREN... EVEN THOUGH SHE CAN'T.
SHE PLAYED MOMMY TO MAKE HERSELF FEEL LIKE SOMEONE ***SHE*** THINKS IS NORMAL.
AND THAT ENDS TRAGICALLY AS WELL?
IF I TOLD YOU A STORY LIKE THIS, YOU'D SAY TO YOURSELF, THIS SOUNDS LIKE A PERSON WHO HAS LOST CONTROL OF THEMSELVES ON A DEEP PSYCHOLOGICAL LEVEL.
YOU'D SAY THIS SOUNDS LIKE A DISTURBED PERSON.

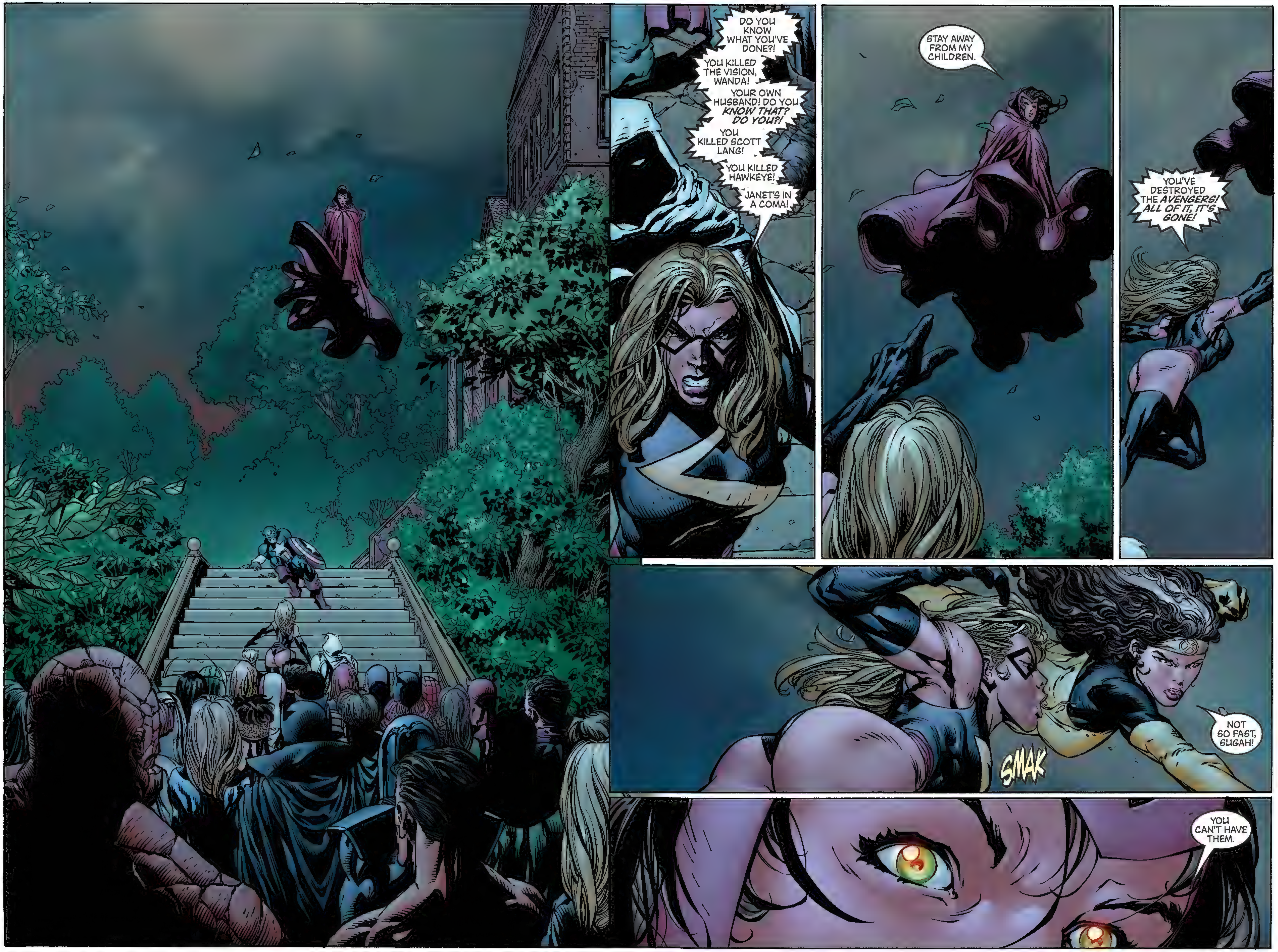
"NOW DOES ANYTHING I HAVE DESCRIBED *NOT* SOUND LIKE WANDA MAXIMOFF?"

NO, NOONONO...
BUT WANDA DOESN'T EVEN REMEMBER WHAT *HAPPENED* TO HER CHILDREN.
AGATHA HARKNESS TOOK CARE OF THAT TOO.
MAYBE SHE REMEMBERED.
IF--IF THIS IS TRUE, *IF!* WHY IS SHE ATTACKING *US?*
I DON'T KNOW.
YOU'RE WRONG.
I TRULY HOPE SO.
BUT I AM NOT.
THERE'S ONLY ONE WAY TO FIND OUT.
DOCTOR, IS THERE ANYTHING YOU CAN DO TO HELP US FIND HER?
PLEASE...
THE MAGICS CREATE A...MAP.
I CAN POINT YOU RIGHT TO HER.
BUT, I WARN YOU...
...IF THIS *IS* TRUE...
...THEN THERE IS NO WAY YOU COULD BE PREPARED FOR WHAT WE'LL SEE WHEN WE FIND HER.

KIDS, DINNER.
IT'S YOUR FAVORITE.
YAY!
YOU KIDS PLAY NICE TODAY?
HA!
SHH!!
I WASN'T GOING TO SAY ANYTHING.
YOU TWO BEHAVE.
YES, MOMMY.
WHAT AM I GOING TO DO WITH YOU TWO?
WANDA?
WANDA--
PLEASE LET ME HELP YOU.

THEN GO AWAY!
I TOLD YOU WE SHOULD HAVE PUNISHED THEM ALL!
STOP IT!
THEY ARE GOING TO BREAK US UP AGAIN!
NO! NO, HE'S NOT. HE CARES ABOUT MOMMY. HE'S ONE OF THE GOOD--
NO!
WANDA, PLEASE...
NONE OF THIS IS REAL. THESE AREN'T YOUR CHILDREN.
YOU DON'T HAVE CHILDREN.
NONE OF THIS IS REAL, WANDA.
DON'T DO THIS! YOU DON'T KNOW.
SEE?!
WHY IS HE SAYING THIS??
AND--AND THEY ARE NOT TALKING. IT'S YOU TALKING. IT'S YOUR VOICE.
I HEAR YOU. I WANT TO HELP YOU--
SHUT UP, STUPID! STOP TELLING ME WHAT TO DO.
HE LOVES MOMMY.
NO!!
WANDA, WE'VE GROWN VERY CLOSE LATELY...
RIGHT?
I--I--
I WANT TO--
LOOK!

BUDDA BUDDA BUDDA BUDDA BUDDA BUDDA
MOMMY, DON'T LET THEM TAKE US AWAY.
NO. IT WON'T HAPPEN AGAIN.
MOMMY, I DON'T WANT TO GO AWAY AGAIN!
NO ONE WILL TAKE YOU AWAY FROM ME AGAIN.


DO YOU KNOW WHAT YOU'VE DONE?!
YOU KILLED THE VISION, WANDA!
YOUR OWN HUSBAND! DO YOU *KNOW THAT? DO YOU?!*
YOU KILLED SCOTT LANG!
YOU KILLED HAWKEYE!
JANET'S IN A COMA!
STAY AWAY FROM MY CHILDREN.
YOU'VE DESTROYED THE *AVENGERS! ALL OF IT, IT'S GONE!*
NOT SO FAST, SUGAH!
SMAK
YOU CAN'T HAVE THEM.

12
12
WANDA MAXIMOFF!

YOU WILL STOP THIS MADNESS, NOW!
YOU ARE HURTING YOUR FRIENDS AND HURTING YOURSELF!
THIS STOPS NOW!
NO.
YOU CAN'T TAKE MY CHILDREN AWAY FROM ME AGAIN!

SHTUNNDI ALAH AKRAYA!
MAXIMOFF!
DESTON GHUTRANTE ALAD GHURA!
REFGHO AGAMOTTO!

THE EYE OF AGAMOTTO WILL SHOW YOU THE TRUTH!
YOU WILL STOP THIS MADNESS!
THESE MAGICS ARE NOT YOURS TO ABUSE!

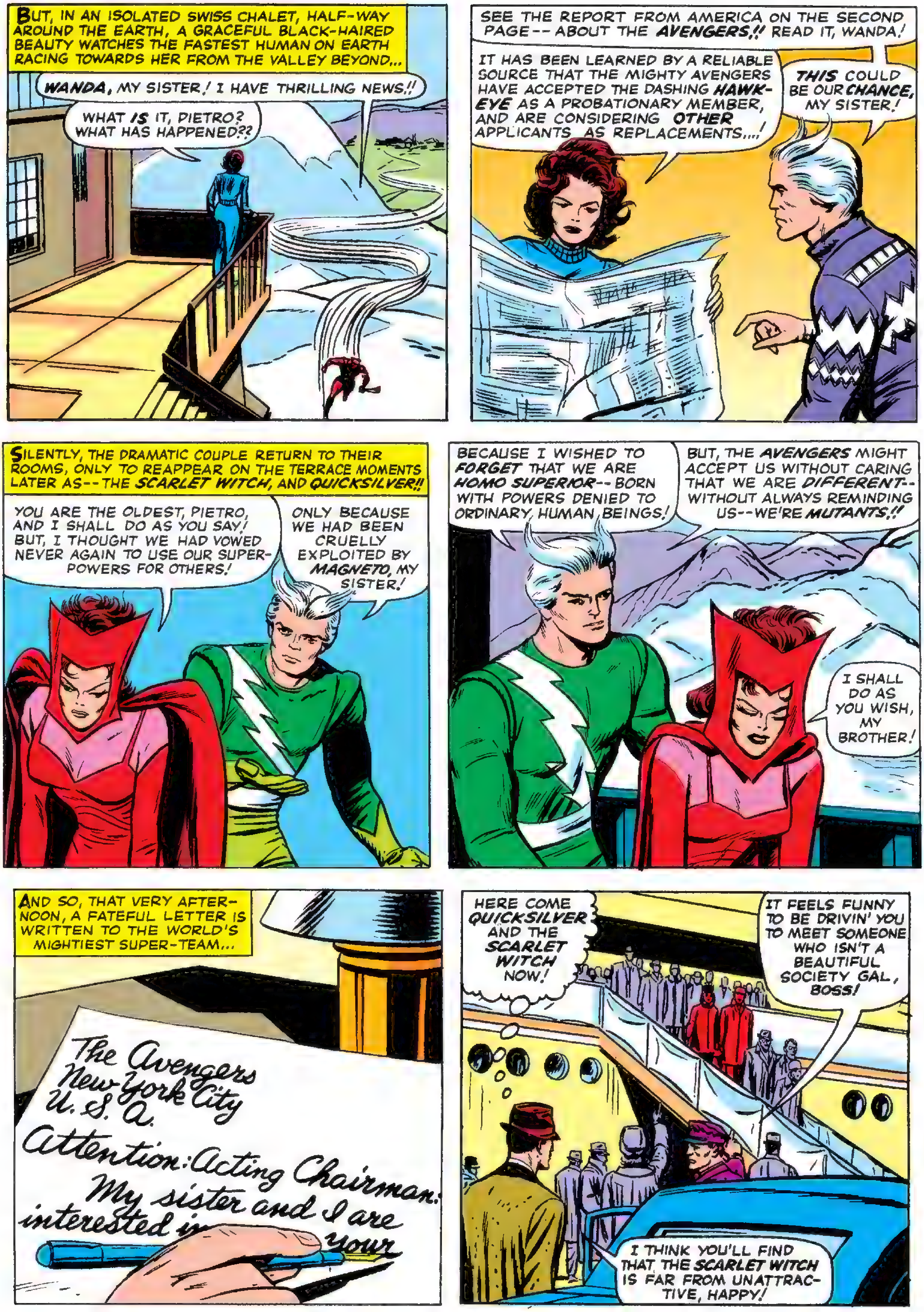
IF THERE WAS ANY OTHER WAY...
I'M SORRY.
IS SHE BREATHING?
SHE IS ALIVE. BUT SHE IS GONE.
HER MIND WAS IN A DELICATE STATE TO BEGIN WITH.
WANDA...?

COLONEL FURY, WHAT ARE WE LOOKING FOR?
WE'LL KNOW IT WHEN WE--
WHO IS THAT, COLONEL?
AGATHA HARKNESS.
JEEZ, HOW LONG HAS SHE BEEN ROTTING THERE?
LONG TIME.
CAN YOU WAKE HER UP?
SHE'S NOT ASLEEP.
HOW CAN WE HELP HER?
YOU CAN GIVE HER TO ME.

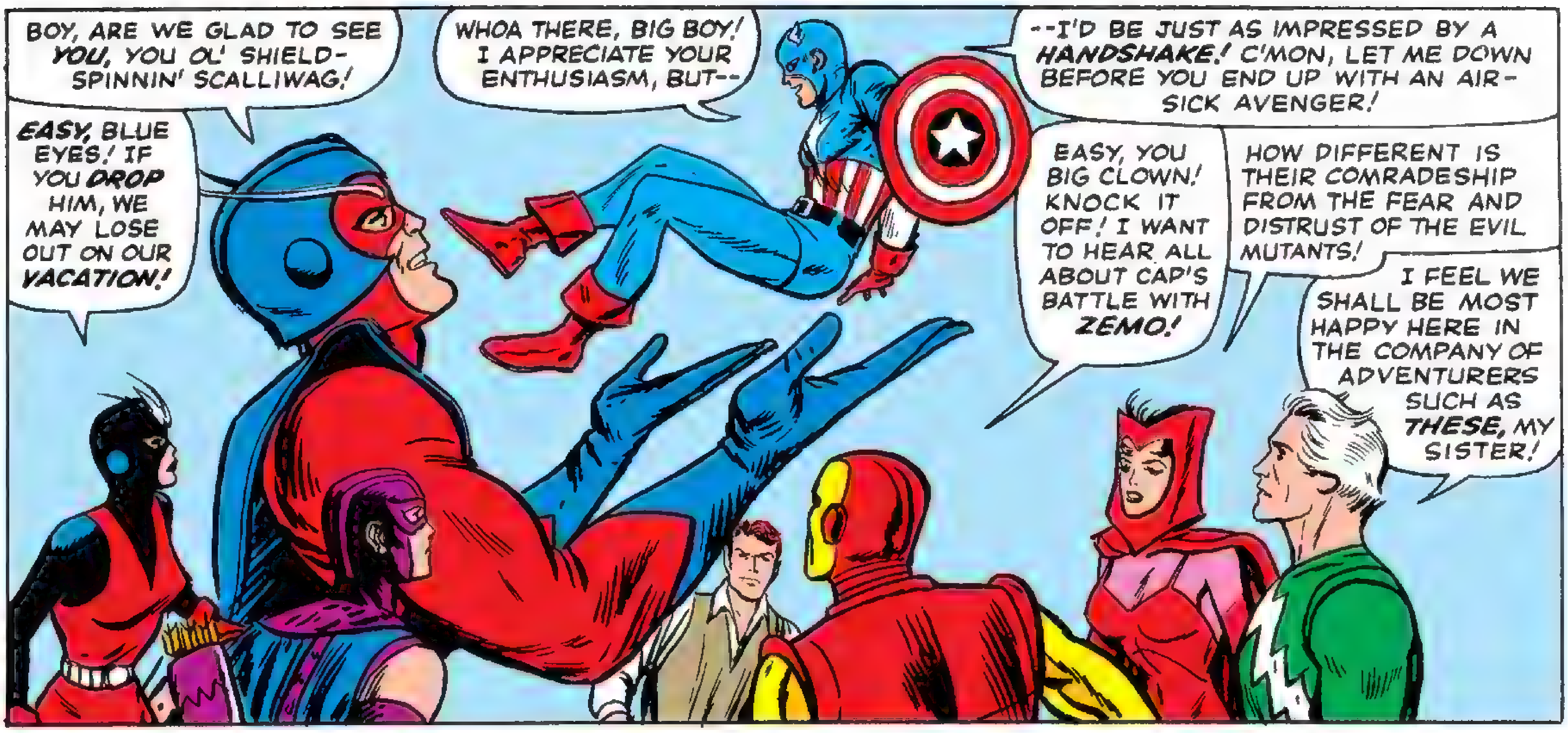
GIVE ME MY DAUGHTER.

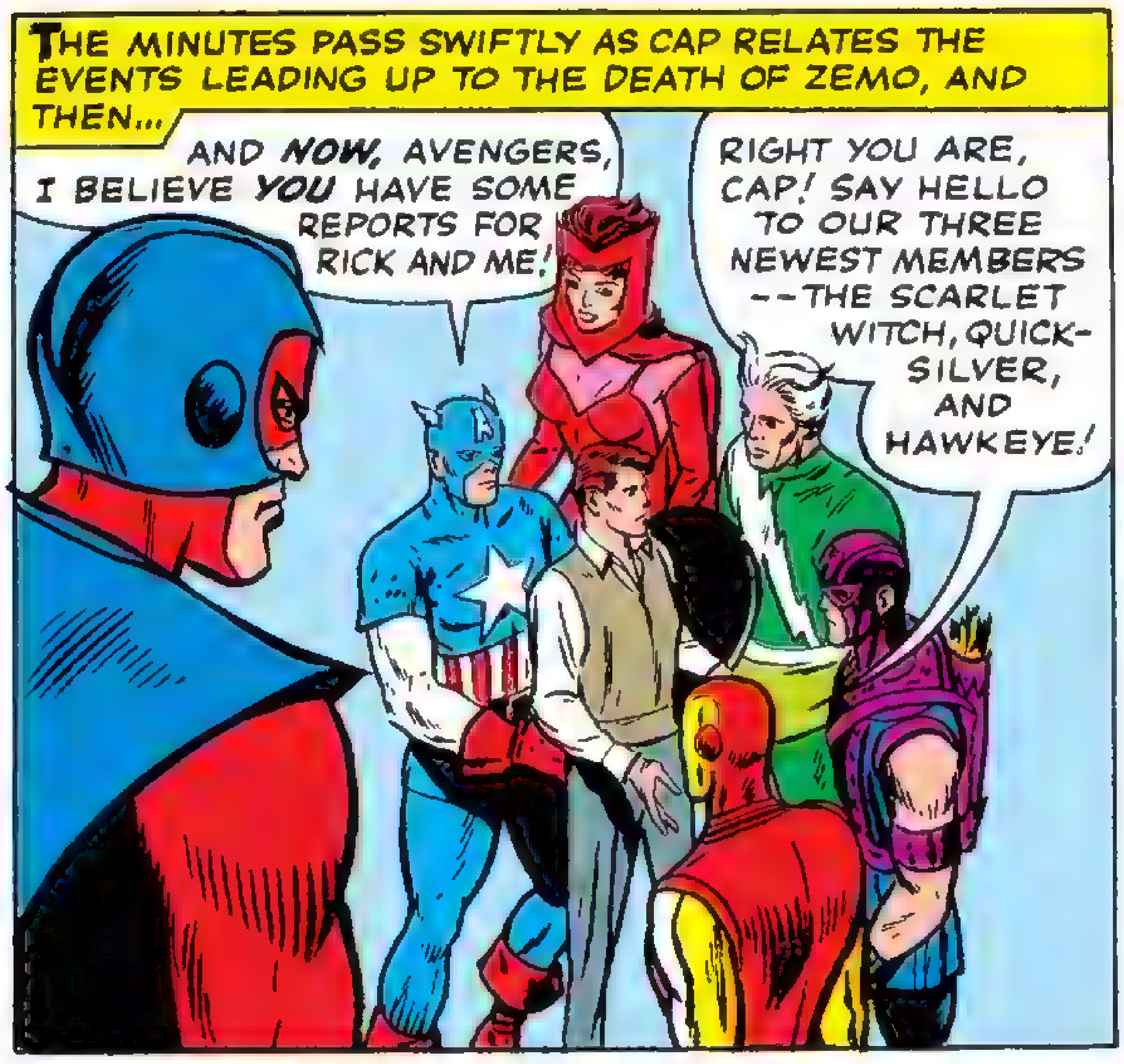
XAVIER WAS RIGHT.
IT WAS YOU.
I FAILED YOU.
MAGNETO, WHERE ARE YOU TAKING HER?

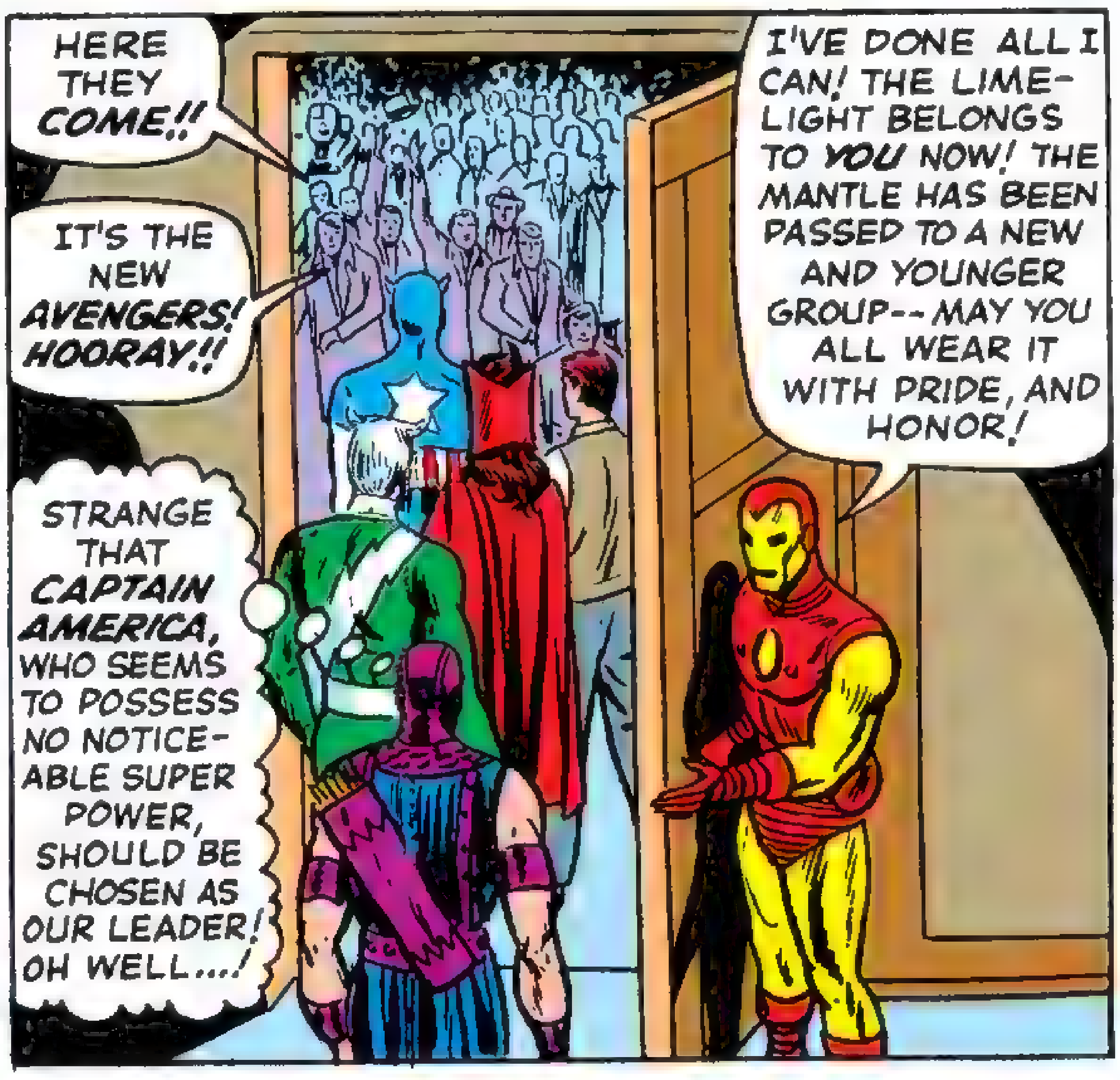
THEN.

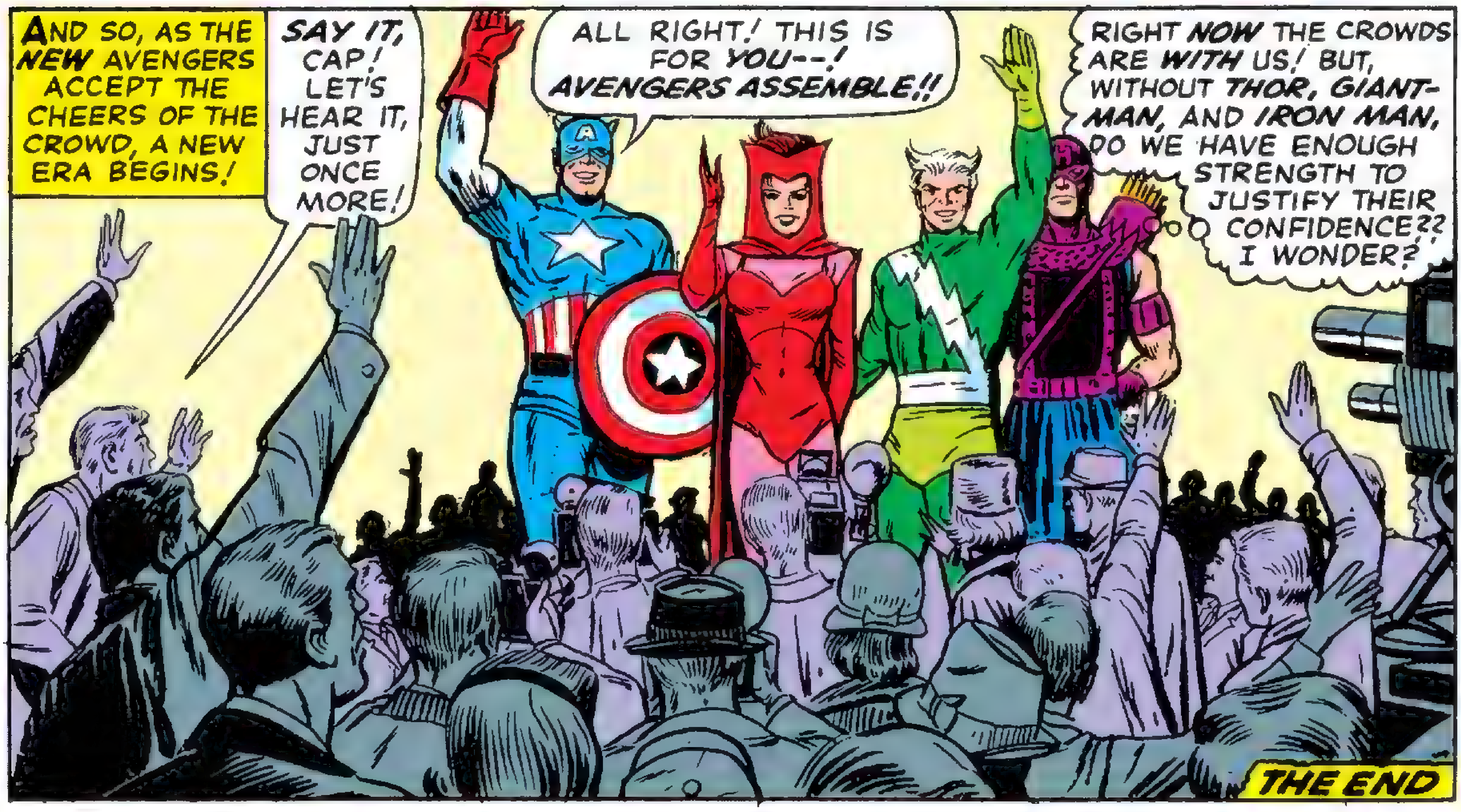

BUT, IN AN ISOLATED SWISS CHALET, HALF-WAY AROUND THE EARTH, A GRACEFUL BLACK-HAIRED BEAUTY WATCHES THE FASTEST HUMAN ON EARTH RACING TOWARDS HER FROM THE VALLEY BEYOND...
WANDA, MY SISTER! I HAVE THRILLING NEWS!!
WHAT IS IT, PIETRO? WHAT HAS HAPPENED??
SEE THE REPORT FROM AMERICA ON THE SECOND PAGE -- ABOUT THE AVENGERS!! READ IT, WANDA!
IT HAS BEEN LEARNED BY A RELIABLE SOURCE THAT THE MIGHTY AVENGERS HAVE ACCEPTED THE DASHING HAWK-EYE AS A PROBATIONARY MEMBER, AND ARE CONSIDERING OTHER APPLICANTS AS REPLACEMENTS...!
THIS COULD BE OUR CHANCE, MY SISTER!
SILENTLY, THE DRAMATIC COUPLE RETURN TO THEIR ROOMS, ONLY TO REAPPEAR ON THE TERRACE MOMENTS LATER AS -- THE SCARLET WITCH, AND QUICKSILVER!!
YOU ARE THE OLDEST, PIETRO, AND I SHALL DO AS YOU SAY! BUT, I THOUGHT WE HAD VOWED NEVER AGAIN TO USE OUR SUPER-POWERS FOR OTHERS!
ONLY BECAUSE WE HAD BEEN CRUELLY EXPLOITED BY MAGNETO, MY SISTER!
BECAUSE I WISHED TO FORGET THAT WE ARE HOMO SUPERIOR -- BORN WITH POWERS DENIED TO ORDINARY HUMAN BEINGS!
BUT, THE AVENGERS MIGHT ACCEPT US WITHOUT CARING THAT WE ARE DIFFERENT -- WITHOUT ALWAYS REMINDING US -- WE'RE MUTANTS!!
I SHALL DO AS YOU WISH, MY BROTHER!
AND SO, THAT VERY AFTERNOON, A FATEFUL LETTER IS WRITTEN TO THE WORLD'S MIGHTIEST SUPER-TEAM...
The Avengers
New York City
U.S.A.
Attention: Acting Chairman:
My sister and I are interested i your
HERE COME QUICKSILVER AND THE SCARLET WITCH NOW!
IT FEELS FUNNY TO BE DRIVIN' YOU TO MEET SOMEONE WHO ISN'T A BEAUTIFUL SOCIETY GAL, BOSS!
I THINK YOU'LL FIND THAT THE SCARLET WITCH IS FAR FROM UNATTRACTIVE, HAPPY!
]

MY NAME IS ANTHONY STARK! I AM A *FRIEND* OF THE AVENGERS-- IN FACT, THEY HOLD THEIR MEETINGS IN A BUILDING WHICH I LEASE TO THEM FOR THAT PURPOSE! THEY ASKED ME TO MEET YOU HERE AND TAKE YOU TO THEIR HEADQUARTERS!
THAT IS KIND OF YOU, MR. STARK! MY NAME IS *PIETRO*, AND THIS IS MY SISTER, *WANDA!*
PERHAPS WE ARE BETTER KNOWN AS *QUICKSILVER*, AND THE *SCARLET WITCH!*
THE *REPORTERS* WHO ARE HERE BEAR WITNESS TO YOUR FAME, MY FRIENDS!
WOULD YOU REMOVE YOUR COATS FOR A PICTURE, PLEASE? THANKS--THAT'S *GREAT!*
WE *HOPE* TO BECOME AVENGERS --IF THEY WILL *HAVE* US!
IS IT TRUE YOU'RE GOING TO BE THE NEXT TWO *AVENGERS* REPLACEMENTS??
THUS, THE COLORFUL MUTANTS ARE USHERED INTO TONY STARK'S MANSION, WHERE THEY AWAIT THEIR COMING INTERVIEW...
IS IT REALLY TRUE THAT THE AVENGERS ARE BREAKING UP, MR. STARK?
NOT AT ALL, WANDA! IN FACT, FAR *FROM* IT! SOME OF THE MEMBERS MERELY WANT TO TAKE LEAVES OF ABSENCE!
BUT, THEY CANNOT DO IT UNTIL SATISFACTORY REPLACEMENTS ARE FOUND!
AND I BELIEVE THAT YOU TWO WILL QUALIFY IN THAT RESPECT! WELL, I MUST LEAVE YOU NOW! SINCE I'M NOT OFFICIALLY AN AVENGER, THERE'S NOTHING MORE I CAN DO HERE!
BUT, IF YOU SHOULD BE ACCEPTED, YOU CAN ALWAYS COUNT ON ME FOR ANY ASSISTANCE WHICH MY WEALTH WILL ALLOW ME TO FURNISH! GOOD LUCK TO YOU BOTH!
THANK YOU, MR. STARK!
I TRUST OUR INTERVIEW WILL BE *SOON!* I AM ANXIOUS TO MEET THE FAMOUS AVENGERS!
WHAT *IS* IT, CAP? WHAT'S GOIN' *ON* IN THERE?
I'M NOT SURE, RICK! THERE SEEM TO BE SOME *NEWCOMERS* AT THE ROUND TABLE--ONE OF THEM, A COSTUMED GIRL, IS MAKING AN *ACCEPTANCE* SPEECH!
MY BROTHER AND I ARE DEEPLY GRATEFUL FOR THE TRUST YOU HAVE PLACED IN US, AND WE ACCEPT OUR POSITIONS WITH GREAT PRIDE...
HOLD IT, ALL OF YOU! LOOK--LOOK WHO'S *HERE!*
HELLO, AVENGERS! APPARENTLY, THERE'S BEEN SOME *CHANGES* MADE SINCE I LEFT!
CAP! THANK HEAVENS YOU'RE SAFE!
YOU'RE A SIGHT FOR SORE EYES, CAP!
AND WHAT AM I-- A FEVER BLISTER?


BOY, ARE WE GLAD TO SEE *YOU*, YOU OL' SHIELD-SPINNIN' SCALLIWAG!
WHOA THERE, BIG BOY! I APPRECIATE YOUR ENTHUSIASM, BUT--
--I'D BE JUST AS IMPRESSED BY A *HANDSHAKE!* C'MON, LET ME DOWN BEFORE YOU END UP WITH AN AIR-SICK AVENGER!
EASY, BLUE EYES! IF YOU *DROP* HIM, WE MAY LOSE OUT ON OUR *VACATION!*
EASY, YOU BIG CLOWN! KNOCK IT OFF! I WANT TO HEAR ALL ABOUT CAP'S BATTLE WITH *ZEMO!*
HOW DIFFERENT IS THEIR COMRADESHIP FROM THE FEAR AND DISTRUST OF THE EVIL MUTANTS!
I FEEL WE SHALL BE MOST HAPPY HERE IN THE COMPANY OF ADVENTURERS SUCH AS *THESE,* MY SISTER!


THE MINUTES PASS SWIFTLY AS CAP RELATES THE EVENTS LEADING UP TO THE DEATH OF ZEMO, AND THEN...
AND *NOW,* AVENGERS, I BELIEVE *YOU* HAVE SOME REPORTS FOR RICK AND ME!
RIGHT YOU ARE, CAP! SAY HELLO TO OUR THREE NEWEST MEMBERS --THE SCARLET WITCH, QUICKSILVER, AND HAWKEYE!


HERE THEY *COME!!*
IT'S THE NEW *AVENGERS! HOORAY!!*
I'VE DONE ALL I CAN! THE LIMELIGHT BELONGS TO *YOU* NOW! THE MANTLE HAS BEEN PASSED TO A NEW AND YOUNGER GROUP-- MAY YOU ALL WEAR IT WITH PRIDE, AND HONOR!
STRANGE THAT *CAPTAIN AMERICA,* WHO SEEMS TO POSSESS NO NOTICEABLE SUPER POWER, SHOULD BE CHOSEN AS OUR LEADER! OH WELL....!


AND SO, AS THE *NEW* AVENGERS ACCEPT THE CHEERS OF THE CROWD, A NEW ERA BEGINS!
SAY IT, CAP! LET'S HEAR IT, JUST ONCE MORE!
ALL RIGHT! THIS IS FOR *YOU--! AVENGERS ASSEMBLE!!*
RIGHT *NOW* THE CROWDS ARE *WITH* US! BUT, WITHOUT *THOR, GIANT-MAN,* AND *IRON MAN,* DO WE HAVE ENOUGH STRENGTH TO JUSTIFY THEIR CONFIDENCE?? I WONDER?
THE END

EARTH'S MIGHTIEST HEROES
AVENGERS
FINALE
MARVEL

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IT'S KIND OF BEAUTIFUL, IN A WEIRD WAY.
THIS IS THE WAY TONY'S LEAVING IT?
IT'S HIS.
HE CAN DO WHATEVER HE *WANTS* WITH IT.
WHAT ARE YOU THINKING, DR. PYM??
I DON'T WANT TO SAY.

--FAVORITE THING ABOUT CLINT WAS THAT NO MATTER *WHAT* CAP SAID, HE DISAGREED.
--NOT JUST DISAGREED, BUT *CRAZY* DISAGREED. IF CAP SAID: I LIKE TURKEY...
JARVIS...?
HMM...?
THAT'S... NOT NECESSARY.
SORRY, SIR. HABIT.
...HAWKEYE WOULD YELL: TURKEY SUCKS AND YOU SUCK AND WHO MADE YOU BOSS?
HA.
VERY GOOD, MADAM.
HI, GUYS...
JANET?!
I'M OK, CAROL.
YOU CAN'T RETURN A PHONE CALL?
I HAVEN'T BEEN IN THE COUNTRY.
THAT'S WHY GOD *INVENTED* TELEPHONES.
I WASN'T BLOWING YOU OFF, CAROL. *ANY* OF YOU.
I WAS IN RECOVERY. A LOT OF SLEEPING AND A LOT OF BAD TV.
I WAS WORRIED.
I'M SORRY, GUYS, I THOUGHT EVERYONE WAS...
JENNIFER?
JEN, WHY AREN'T YOU HULKED UP FOR THE BIG REUNION?
WHY ARE YOU HERE AS JENNIFER WALTERS AND NOT SHE-HULK?
I THOUGHT IT WOULD BE IN BAD TASTE, CONSIDERING.

NO ONE'S *MAD* AT YOU, JENNIFER. YOU DIDN'T DO ANYTHING WRONG.
NO ONE'S MAD AT YOU.
THE VISION--
THE VISION'S BODY WAS ALREADY DESTROYED BEFORE YOU PICKED HIM UP.
AND IT *WASN'T* YOU--IT WAS WANDA.
IT WAS HER CONTROLLING YOU.
NO ONE HERE THINKS OTHERWISE.
LISTEN, I--
THANK YOU ALL FOR COMING.
UM--AS YOU KNOW, IF THERE WAS *ANY* UPSIDE TO THE NIGHTMARE WE'VE BEEN THROUGH...IT IS THAT I WAS ABLE TO PUT THE GENIE BACK IN THE BOTTLE AS FAR AS MY SECRET IDENTITY IS CONCERNED.
MOST PEOPLE BELIEVE THAT TONY STARK AND IRON MAN ARE NOW TWO COMPLETELY DIFFERENT PEOPLE.
I WOULD NEVER ASK ANY OF YOU TO OUTRIGHT *LIE* FOR ME...
...BUT IF IT COMES UP--IF YOU COULD AT LEAST NOT SAY ANYTHING TO *CONTRADICT* ME.
I WOULD APPRECIATE IT.
BUT...

AND I HOPE YOU KNOW THAT THIS IS ABOUT THE HARDEST THING I HAVE EVER HAD TO SAY OUT LOUD...
...BUT BECAUSE OF THE PHYSICAL AND MENTAL DAMAGE WANDA'S BREAKDOWN...
...OR WHAT*EVER* WE ARE CALLING IT...
...BECAUSE OF THE DAMAGE TO US, TO ME AND MY COMPANY...
...I'M NOT GOING TO BE IN A POSITION TO FINANCE THE AVENGERS ANYMORE.
OR, MORE TO THE POINT, THE FOUNDATION THAT I CREATED THAT FUNDS THE AVENGERS JUST DOESN'T HAVE ENOUGH CASH IN IT TO REPAIR THIS.
REALIZE THAT WHEN SOMEONE LIKE ME HAS A BAD DAY--
--LIKE *THAT* DAY--
--THE PUBLIC HUMILIATION--
--BILLIONS OF DOLLARS ARE LOST, THOUSANDS OF *JOBS* ARE LOST.
NO EXAGGERATION.
I HAVE TO THINK ABOUT THE PEOPLE WHOSE LIVES DEPEND ON ME.
AND AS LONG AS I HAVE *THAT* PRIORITY HANGING OVER MY HEAD...
...I'M NOT GOING TO BE ABLE TO BRING THE FOUNDATION BACK TO A PLACE LIKE THE ONE WE WOULD NEED TO REBUILD.
I DON'T THINK IT WOULD *SURPRISE* ANY OF YOU THAT THE SHEER FINANCIAL *MAGNITUDE* THE DAILY UPKEEP OF THE MANSION WAS--
AND WITH THE U.N. OFFICIALLY TREATING US LIKE A DATE THAT WOULDN'T PUT OUT...
...IT DOESN'T LOOK LIKE WE'LL BE ABLE TO FIND THE GOVERNMENT FUNDING WE WOULD NEED.
I KNOW THAT WHINING ABOUT MONEY WHEN CLINT, SCOTT, WANDA AND THE VISION ARE NO LONGER WITH US SEEMS *CRASS* ON THE SURFACE...
... BUT IT AFFECTS YOU ALL-- OR I WOULDN'T EVEN BRING IT UP.

I'VE TAKEN THE LIBERTY OF STARTING THE PROPER PAPERWORK WITH THE CITY OF NEW YORK.
THEY *WILL* DECLARE THIS PROPERTY A LANDMARK.
I'VE SEALED THE TUNNELS AND CLEANED OUT ALL THE SENSITIVE MATERIAL AND TECHNOLOGY.
I HAVE HAD THE CRASHED QUINJET GUTTED FOR PARTS--IT'S EMPTY--BUT I AM GOING TO LEAVE *IT* AND THE *PROPERTY* AS IS.
I KNOW SOME OF YOU DON'T *AGREE* WITH THIS IDEA.
BUT IT'S MY PROPERTY...AND RIGHT NOW THIS IS WHAT I NEED TO DO WITH IT.
I THINK IT'S A FITTING MEMORIAL.
I THINK IT SAYS A LOT.
BUT I DO FEEL LIKE I'VE LET YOU DOWN.
I AM IN ONE OF THOSE POSITIONS WHERE THERE IS NO WAY TO DO *ANYTHING* WITHOUT LETTING *SOMEONE* DOWN.
I'M SO MAD AT HER.
I DON'T KNOW ABOUT YOU GUYS--I *DON'T* FORGIVE HER. I *NEVER* WILL.
I KNOW THIS ISN'T A PARTICULARLY GENEROUS THOUGHT--
--BUT IT'S BEEN MONTHS NOW, AND IT'S ALL I'VE BEEN FEELING.
I HATE WANDA FOR WHAT SHE'S DONE.
I HATE HER MORE THAN I'VE EVER HATED ANYONE.
I DON'T FORGIVE HER.
I HAVE GONE THROUGH--WE'VE *ALL* GONE THROUGH JUST AS MUCH NIGHTMARE CRAP IN OUR LIVES AS *SHE* HAD.
I LOOK AROUND THE ROOM AND ALL I *SEE* ARE LOVES LOST. CHILDREN LOST. MEMBERS GONE.
I HELD IT TOGETHER. *I* DIDN'T GO ON A RAMPAGE.
AND I *COULD* HAVE! YOU KNOW *EXACTLY* WHAT I'M TALKING ABOUT.
DAMN HER FOR WHAT SHE'S DONE TO US.
SHE WOULD HAVE FORGIVEN YOU.
NO! NO, SHE--
YES, SHE WOULD HAVE.

MY SISTER LOVED YOU.
PIETRO!!
WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN?
I WAS ON A VACATION. SITTING IN GREENLAND...IN A SMALL RENTED CABIN.
READING NOVELS.
THAT'S WHAT I WAS DOING WHEN *THIS* HAPPENED. I WAS READING.
BUT WE SAW YOU THAT DAY.
THAT WAS NOT ME. SO IT MUST HAVE BEEN MY SISTER'S DOING.
OH MY GOD...
DO--DO YOU KNOW WHERE WANDA IS?

SHE'S WITH MY FATHER.
MAGNETO HAS LEFT THE COUNTRY AND TAKEN HER TO CHARLES XAVIER.
XAVIER'S TRYING TO REPAIR HER MIND THROUGH ANY NUMBER OF, THEY SAID, *PSYCHIC* TECHNIQUES.
XAVIER WILL TRY TO MAKE HER WHAT SHE ONCE WAS. TO HEAL HER MIND.
BUT, EVEN IF HE DOES...
MY SISTER, WHEN SHE REALIZES WHAT SHE HAS *DONE* HERE...
I THINK IT WILL BE IMPOSSIBLE TO *EVER* HEAL HER.
SHE WILL *NEVER* BE THE WOMAN SHE ONCE WAS.
NOT AFTER THIS.
NO ONE COULD RECOVER FROM *THIS.*
I CAME HERE TO APOLOGIZE.
I--
I CAME HERE TO--

PIETRO??
HE CAN'T HEAR YOU, SIMON--HE'S NOT IN THE CITY ANYMORE.
POOR GUY.
HE SHOULD HAVE TOLD US WHERE SHE IS.
WHAT DIFFERENCE WOULD IT MAKE?
HAS, UH, ANYONE HEARD FROM THOR? HAS ANYONE SEEN HIM?
COULD MS. MAXIMOFF'S *"REACH"* HAVE GONE AS FAR AS THOR'S HOME IN ASGARD?
IT GOT ALL THE WAY TO THE KREE ARMY.
IF THAT *WAS* THE KREE ARMY.
SHE MIGHT HAVE CREATED THAT ENTIRE SITUATION OUT OF THIN AIR.
AND WE WEREN'T THE ONLY VICTIMS HERE--IT WAS ALL OVER THE PLACE THAT DAY.
I KEEP HOPING THIS WAS--
THAT I'D WAKE UP IN THE MANSION AND EVERYTHING WOULD BE LIKE IT WAS. BUT--
BUT YOU KNOW WHAT'S EATING AT ME? I WANT TO KNOW WHAT WANDA'S OVERALL PLAN WAS.
I WANT TO KNOW WHY SHE KILLED *SOME* OF US, BUT ONLY *HURT* OR *EMBARRASSED* OTHERS...
...DESTROYED SOME THINGS AND NOT OTHERS...
...HOW FAR WAS IT GOING TO *GO* IF SHE WENT ALL THE WAY WITH IT?
JUST HOW POWERFUL IS SHE?
DID SHE SLOWLY DIP INTO MADNESS, OR DID SHE SNAP?
HOW MUCH CONTROL DID SHE HAVE OVER IT ALL?
WAS IT ONLY THAT DAY OR WAS IT SLOWLY BUILDING? WHAT ELSE DID SHE AFFECT THAT WE DIDN'T EVEN NOTICE?
SO THIS IS IT, RIGHT?
WE'RE DONE.

I AM.
THAT'S-- THAT'S REALLY WHAT I CAME HERE TO SAY.
IN PERSON.
I KNOW IT WASN'T *"ME"* WHO ATTACKED YOU, BUT IT WAS.
I FAILED-- NO, NO, I FAILED THE TEAM. I FAILED.
IF YOU KNEW WHAT MY PERSONAL GOALS WERE--IF YOU KNEW WHAT I HAD ***HOPED*** TO ACHIEVE HERE VERSUS WHAT I ACTUALLY HAVE...
I FAILED.
I'M SORRY...
...I LOVE YOU ALL...
...BUT I'M DONE WITH THE AVENGERS.
EXCUSE ME...
JENNIFER, COME ON, YOU DON'T HAVE TO...
HANK?
ACTUALLY, I GUESS THIS IS AS GOOD A TIME AS ANY...
UM, JANET AND I HAD COME HERE TO TELL YOU THAT I, UM, I ACCEPTED A FELLOWSHIP AT OXFORD.
WE'RE LEAVING IN A MONTH.

ARE--ARE YOU GUYS, YOU KNOW, BACK TOGETHER?
IT'S... COMPLICATED.
WHICH IS SHOCKING TO HEAR FROM US, I KNOW.
BUT WE'LL--WE'LL SEE.
THIS WHOLE THING, IT WAS A REAL EYE-OPENER. REALLY PUT THINGS IN PERSPECTIVE.
I KNOW, AGAIN, SHOCKING.
BUT WHO WAS THERE WHEN I WOKE UP IN THE HOSPITAL?
WHO HAD SAT THERE SO LONG HE HAD GROWN A BEARD?
AND IT REALLY... MEANS SOMETHING TO ME, IT SHOWED ME SOMETHING.
I THINK MAYBE A CHANGE OF SCENERY TO GO WITH THE CHANGE IN PERSPECTIVE.
IT'S WORTH A SHOT.
YEAH, ME TOO.
IF YOU ALL CARE...
...I'M PRETTY MUCH DONE HERE TOO.
NOT WANTING TO BE A *"LEAVING-THE-SINKING-SHIP"* KIND OF GUY...BUT IT LOOKS LIKE I'D BE SITTING IN HERE ALL BY MYSELF ANYHOW.
I GOT SOME STUFF GOING ON PERSONALLY, AND IT AIN'T ABOUT YOU GUYS...
NOT AT ALL.
I MIGHT RETIRE THE FALCON WINGS ALTOGETHER.

IF I MAY...
HI--UM...
IN A VERY SHORT PERIOD OF TIME... SO MUCH OF MY LIFE HAS CHANGED...
SO MUCH SO, THAT THE WOMAN I AM NOW DOESN'T EVEN RECOGNIZE THE WOMAN I WAS BEFORE I MET YOU ALL.
BEFORE I BECAME CAPTAIN BRITAIN.
I JUST WANTED TO SAY THANK YOU.
I WANTED YOU TO KNOW THAT I AM RETURNING TO ENGLAND WITH--WITH A RENEWED SENSE OF PURPOSE IN LIFE... AND IT'S *BECAUSE* OF ALL OF YOU.
I'M GOING TO LEAVE NOW...
...BUT I WANTED YOU TO KNOW...
...THAT I WILL NEVER FORGET YOU AND I WILL *ALWAYS* BE HERE FOR YOU NO MATTER WHAT.
YOU DON'T HAVE TO LEAVE RIGHT THIS SECOND... STAY WITH US.
FAREWELL AVENGERS.
WE DID DO GOOD THINGS, RIGHT? I MEAN... WE DID DO *SOMETHING* GOOD.
I--I JUST NEED TO KNOW IT WAS WORTH IT.
TONY, WHAT WAS OUR BEST MOMENT?
BEST MOMENT?
YOUR OPINION...
BEST MOMENT.
I THINK, FOR ME...

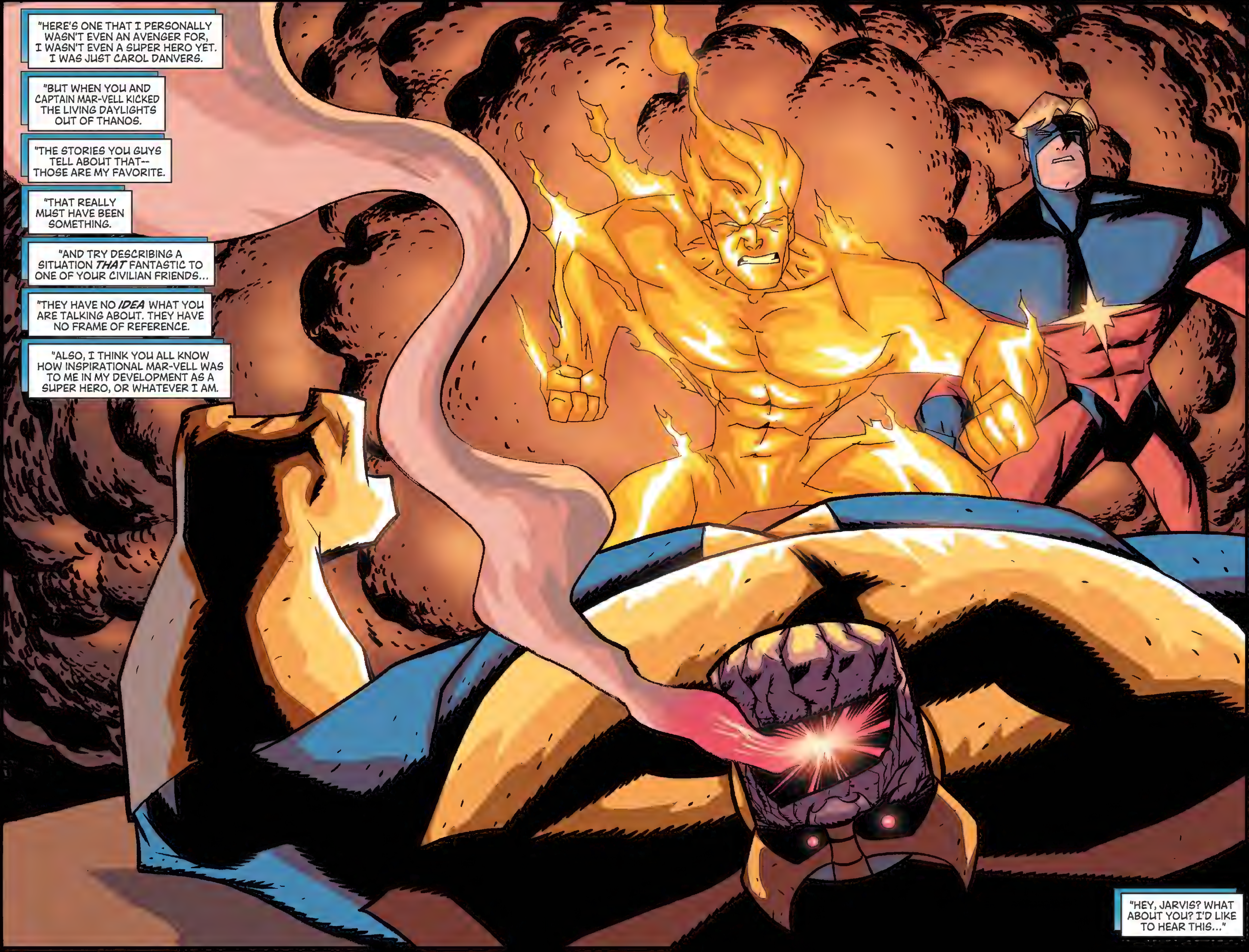
"THE BEST THING WE EVER DID WAS GETTING TOGETHER IN THE FIRST PLACE.
"I WAS SO NEW TO THE ARMOR AND TO THE ADVENTURE, AND WHEN THIS TEAM GOT TOGETHER...
"...HULK INCLUDED...
"...I SAID TO MYSELF: *'THIS IS WORTH DOING. THIS IS IMPORTANT.'*
"A SUPERGROUP.
"DON'T TELL ANYONE I EVER SAID THIS OUT LOUD, BECAUSE I KNOW IT SOUNDS ARROGANT BEYOND COMPREHENSION, BUT I ALWAYS THOUGHT OF US AS *'THE BEATLES'* OF SUPER HEROES.
"I WILL NEVER BE MORE PROUD OF ANYTHING IN MY WHOLE LIFE.
"THAT'S WHY I PICKED UP THE CHECK IN THE FIRST PLACE.
"IT WAS THE BEST MONEY I EVER SPENT.
"HOW ABOUT YOU, JANET? YOU'VE BEEN HERE WITH ME SINCE DAY ONE..."

"HONESTLY? FINDING CAPTAIN AMERICA.
"WE NEEDED HIM. THE COUNTRY NEEDED HIM. LOOK AT HIM... WE *STILL* NEED HIM.
"FROM THE VERY SECOND HE JOINED THE AVENGERS... THE ENTIRE TEAM WAS ENERGIZED.
"I THINK OF THAT DAY AND I *STILL* GET CHILLS.
"WOW, WHEN I SAW THAT SHIELD... I COULDN'T BELIEVE IT.
"CAPTAIN AMERICA IS HERE.
"THANK GOD.
"HANK? TELL THEM YOURS. I KNOW IT, BUT TELL THEM..."

"YOU MIGHT FIND THIS ODD, CONSIDERING I WASN'T THERE FOR MOST OF IT...
"...BUT THE ONE THING I WISH I *COULD* HAVE BEEN A BIGGER PART OF...WAS THE KREE-SKRULL WAR.
"THIS WAS THE AVENGERS AT THEIR VERY BEST.
"TWO ALIEN RACES USING THE PLANET EARTH-- USING NEW YORK CITY AS A BATTLEFIELD.
"AND YOU, ALL OF YOU, STANDING RIGHT IN THEIR WAY.
"AT LEAST FROM THE OUTSIDE, IT LOOKED LIKE A *PURE* VICTORY.
"SOMETIMES, THESE BATTLES WE WAGE, THE FIGHTING CAN FEEL SOMEWHAT...COMPROMISED.
"SHALLOW. CONFLICTED.
"BUT NOT THIS ONE. NO.
"REALLY WISH I HAD BEEN MORE A PART OF IT.
"SIMON?"

"THIS--THIS MIGHT SEEM IN TERRIBLE TASTE TO SOME OF YOU, CONSIDERING...
"BUT I THOUGHT THE VISION MARRYING WANDA WAS--WELL...
"IT WASN'T THE MOST VICTORIOUS MOMENT, OR THE MOST HEROIC, BUT IT WAS THE ***BEST*** MOMENT.
"AND I THINK I'M GOING TO STICK TO MY GUNS ON THIS.
"I'M JUST GOING TO DECIDE TO REMEMBER THEM LIKE THIS.
"HANK?"

"REMEMBER THAT GUY...MICHAEL?
"KORVAC. YEAH.
"KORVAC.
"THAT WAS THE ONE TIME--TO ME--THAT WAS THE ONE TIME I THOUGHT WE COULDN'T--NOT WOULDN'T, BUT *COULDN'T*--SAVE THE DAY.
"BUT WE *DID*.
"THAT GUY HAD THE POWER OF THE UNIVERSE IN HIS HANDS. AT LEAST HE *SAID* HE DID. WHO KNOWS?
"ANYWAY, IT LOOKED LIKE WE COULDN'T WIN, AND WE DID.
"AS A TEAM.
"WE SAVED THE UNIVERSE.
"THE *ENTIRE* UNIVERSE.
"THAT SOUNDS LIKE A PRETTY DAMN GOOD DAY.
"CHEERS."
FRANK 2004


"HERE'S ONE THAT I PERSONALLY WASN'T EVEN AN AVENGER FOR, I WASN'T EVEN A SUPER HERO YET. I WAS JUST CAROL DANVERS.
"BUT WHEN YOU AND CAPTAIN MAR-VELL KICKED THE LIVING DAYLIGHTS OUT OF THANOS.
"THE STORIES YOU GUYS TELL ABOUT THAT-- THOSE ARE MY FAVORITE.
"THAT REALLY MUST HAVE BEEN SOMETHING.
"AND TRY DESCRIBING A SITUATION *THAT* FANTASTIC TO ONE OF YOUR CIVILIAN FRIENDS...
"THEY HAVE NO *IDEA* WHAT YOU ARE TALKING ABOUT. THEY HAVE NO FRAME OF REFERENCE.
"ALSO, I THINK YOU ALL KNOW HOW INSPIRATIONAL MAR-VELL WAS TO ME IN MY DEVELOPMENT AS A SUPER HERO, OR WHATEVER I AM.
"HEY, JARVIS? WHAT ABOUT YOU? I'D LIKE TO HEAR THIS..."

"OH, UM, I SUPPOSE I HAVE A SOFT SPOT FOR THE FISTICUFFS THAT TOOK PLACE RIGHT HERE WHEN THOSE VULGARIANS HAD THE AUDACITY TO FOUL THE MANSION WITH THEIR PRESENCE.
"THEY REFERRED TO THEMSELVES AS THE MASTERS OF EVIL, I DO BELIEVE.
"JUST REPULSIVE HUMAN BEINGS, EACH AND EVERY ONE.
"IN ALL THE TIME IT HAS BEEN MY HONOR TO SERVE THE AVENGERS IN THEIR DAY-TO-DAY NEEDS, NEVER BEFORE HAD I FELT SO HELPLESS AND VIOLATED.
"BUT THE AVENGERS WERE VICTORIOUS, AND THIS HUMBLE SERVANT'S LIFE WAS SPARED.
"THIS, YES, THIS TO ME ENDED UP BEING A LOVELY DAY."

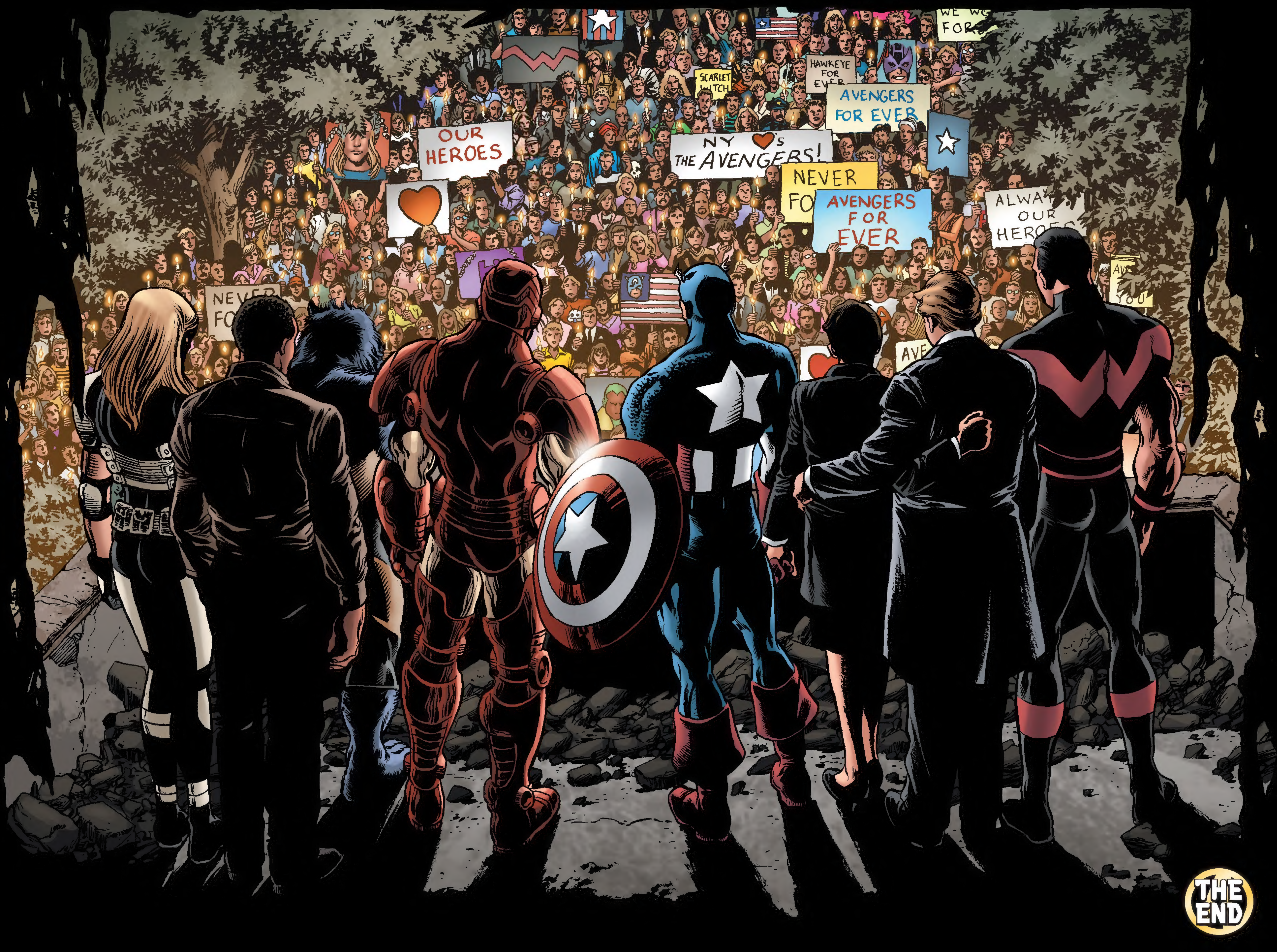
"YOU KNOW WHAT? THIS IS FUNNY IN A WAY, BUT *MY* FAVORITE AVENGERS MOMENT WAS ONE THAT *THE FALCON* WASN'T AN AVENGER FOR EITHER.
"WHAT DO YOU THINK IT MEANS THAT HALF OF US PICKED ADVENTURES WE WEREN'T PART OF?
"MAYBE, ALL SAID AND DONE, WE ALL LIKED THE *IDEA* OF THE AVENGERS MORE THAN ACTUALLY BEING *IN* IT.
"BUT FOR *ME,* WHEN WORD CAME OUT THAT YOU ALL FINALLY PUT THE HOLY BEAT-DOWN ON THAT ANNOYING PAIN-IN-THE-ASS ROBOT, ULTRON...
"...HOW GREAT MUST *THAT* HAVE FELT?
"I'M SURPRISED, ACTUALLY, THAT *YOU* DIDN'T PICK THIS ONE, PYM. CONSIDERING... (NO OFFENSE OR ANYTHING.)
"ULTRON. DOWN. LET'S HOPE HE STAYS DOWN.
"AND FOR A MINUTE THERE I THOUGHT--DURING ALL OF WANDA'S CHAOS WHEN THOSE ULTRONS APPEARED...
"...I THOUGHT *HE* WAS THE ONE BEHIND IT ALL AND THAT HE WAS *BACK!*
"SCARED THE CRAP OUT OF ME."
MNV/MORALES/MQ! -2004-

NOW I WISH IT *WAS* HIM.
HIM. IT. WHATEVER.
CAP?
STEVE?
LIKE YOU SAID BEFORE...
THE AVENGERS HAVE BEEN A PART OF MY LIFE SINCE THE VERY MOMENT I WOKE UP TO THIS NEW WORLD.
AND EVEN WITH *ALL* THE DRAMA AND TRAGEDY THAT HAS ALWAYS SURROUNDED US...
...IT NEVER OCCURRED TO ME THAT IT COULD EVER END.
I NEVER THOUGHT IT WOULD HAPPEN.

TO CLINT BARTON.
TO SCOTT LANG.
TO THE VISION.
TO MAR-VELL.
YES, TO JACK OF HEARTS. TO JACK HART.
SWORDSMAN.
MOCKINGBIRD.
YELLOWJACKET.
DOCTOR DRUID.
WHIZZER.
TWO-GUN KID.
GILGAMESH.
MARRINA.
THUNDERSTRIKE.
HOW ABOUT...
...TO ALL OF US.
WANDA, TOO.

WELL, WE REALLY SHOULDN'T KEEP THEM WAITING ANY LONGER.
DID ANYONE ACTUALLY SHOW UP?
ARE YOU SERIOUS?

VENGERS
4-EVER


WE WI
FOR
SCARLET WITCH
HAWKEYE FOR EVER
AVENGERS FOR EVER
OUR HEROES
NY ♥'s THE AVENGERS!
NEVER FO
AVENGERS FOR EVER
ALWAYS OUR HEROES
NEVER FO
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AVE
THE END

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